

WORKS IN PROGRESS

VOLUME 6, No. 4

THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION

AUGUST 1995 • FREE

"He has the right to criticize who has the heart to help." Abraham Lincoln

George Johnson

The Bread and Roses drop-in center in downtown Olympia has been a popular issue of late. It's been dragged through the mainstream media slime of biased legal talk radio as well as being the main topic on a series of recent city council meetings; where, of course, nothing much happened save a few cheap theatrics/adolescent-like melodrama inspired by at least one council member/local business owner.

Contrary to popular belief, Bread and Roses, is not attempting to "take on the world's problems"—they are attempting to find and offer solutions to local homelessness and impending issues of poverty and loss. They are doing something, at least, to help alleviate some of the present social ills. Those who are opposed to their services are more than likely too self-obsessed and unaware of any problems outside their own "sphere of interest", or they simply don't care as long as it doesn't directly affect them.

In any case Bread and Roses realizes that they offer a "band aid solution" to the ever increasing problem of homelessness. Folks, don't be so naive as to believe that homelessness couldn't happen to you; how much of your life have you mortgaged to at-

Bread and Roses

Taking Care Of Our Own



photo by Dave Campbell

tempt and hold on to that home that you are duped into believing is yours? You'd best take a long hard look at the reality of problems in our society, and if you remain passive and insist on others (such as Bread and Roses) to tackle those problems alone, you forfeit a voice or any say so in the matter whatsoever.

The Bread and Roses drop in center offers the needy a safe place to go, a mailing address, telephone service, free showers and toilets, as well as free laundry services.

The staff is comprised primarily of volunteers, a few hardworking compassionate members of this community who aren't blind to the current

problems. A number of drop in clients are also volunteers but altogether it's still not enough manpower. Some of this community's nay-sayers should get down there and volunteer sometime instead of continuing to ride the elitist high horse oblivious to the truths of the situation. Put some positive ideas into actions as opposed to the negative reinforcement which is the current trend; you are challenged.

No one under the age of eighteen

"... this community's nay-sayers should get down there and volunteer sometime instead of continuing to ride the elitist high horse oblivious to the truths of the situation."

is permitted to "hang out" inside the drop in center, but anyone is allowed in the dining room for meals. Bread and Roses does not discriminate when it comes to hungry people—a basic need for sustaining human life must not be regulated in a fascist manner, although violent or belligerent people are not tolerated and are asked to leave. The Bread and Roses philosophy is based on non-violence and passive resistance when needed. Nothing on this earth gives anyone the right to deny food to the hungry if it is available—it is a basic need of human life along with shelter and clothing) but all three are shamelessly exploited in our society.

"Teenagers have been observed hanging out in the streets and alleys surrounding the drop-in and in the kitchen"—Of course! where else do the homeless kids have to go? They are asked to leave the area by the Bread and Roses staff, but it is not their responsibility to enforce where these kids should or should not go. That is a matter for the community youth services, the police, or their parents. The Bread and Roses staff are not babysitters—they have too much to keep them busy as it is administering to the needs of the drop-in clients. The ever growing problem of this society's denial of the problems which must be addressed by everyone.

Local and out-of-town drug deal-

Local AIDS Prevention Project Is Working

WIP News Service

The following interview was conducted by Josh Remis from his KAOS show Free and Fair on the Air and WIP's Pat Tassoni in the office of the Olympia AIDS Prevention Projects. Long Hair Dave, the interviewee, is the founder of the Olympia AIDS Prevention Projects. Also present

drug users are in regard to HIV/AIDS. I'm an ex-injection drug user and an ex-convict myself, and my own assessment and the assessments of those with whom I talked was that they needed clean syringes and life-saving information and materials.

And so I slowly got involved in it by doing needle exchange and edu-

with an "s", because I wanted to put together a project, a non-profit organization, that would umbrella several different projects directed at high-risk populations.

The philosophy of OAPP is people have the right to live-saving information and materials and first of all and foremost of all is the high-risk populations who were not being reached. Early on in the projects, I realized that I would have to continue to raise funds, that I wasn't exactly going to be welcomed by the community and that I was going to have to get more people involved with the project than just me. At this time, there must be anywhere from 10 to 25 people who would consider themselves volunteers of OAPP.

Our success is that we're still going and I haven't succumbed to all the political pressure. I now have a little team working together in the needle exchange. OAPP has spawned what will now be the Youth AIDS Prevention Projects with all their successes.

Locally, there has been a change in the behavior of injection drug users, even the hard core users. A guy came in the other day, brought in 617 syringes. That means there is

(Continued on page 8)

"... people have the right to live-saving information and materials and foremost in importance are the high-risk populations who were not being reached."

was Vera (a fictitious name), a current injection drug user.

OAPP answering machine message: "AIDS prevention is never going to be perfect, and the AIDS crisis is not over yet... Remember: fight to live, fight to love, fight AIDS."

Olympia AIDS Prevention Projects was a project I started about three years ago. I participated in an Olympia focus group looking at what the needs of the community's injection

cating myself around the issues of injection drugs and AIDS. I started working with the Health Department. As it developed I got some funding. I think the first grant I got was from the Community Sustaining Fund. So I had this check for \$600 and couldn't put it in the bank because I don't have a checking account myself and I wanted it all to be handled properly. I decided to incorporate 501(C)(3) and at that time, I came up with the name Olympia AIDS Prevention Projects,

(Continued on page 5)

LETTERS

Proportional Representation Is Being Seriously Considered

Yes, it's finally happened: Cynthia McKinney, a Member of Congress from Georgia, has announced that she will introduce legislation to allow states to use proportional representation (PR) voting systems for Congressional elections in order to open up our political process and provide fair representation for all voters.

At the same time, *USA Today* — the newspaper with the largest circulation in the nation — has enthusiastically endorsed PR for our elections.

The Center for Voting and Democracy is the only national organization aggressively promoting PR. We have played an instrumental role

in the growing interest in these fair systems of electing our representatives.

- When Rep. McKinney wanted information on PR, she contacted the Center.

- When *USA Today* writers wanted information, the Center was first on their list.

- When syndicated columnist Clarence Page called, we were here to provide analysis and information that led to Page's July 2nd column endorsing PR.

- When groups ranging from Detroit's charter commission to "Third Parties '96" to the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation sought speakers on PR in recent weeks, they turned to the Center to provide them.

The last week has been particularly

busy. Our small, dedicated staff worked overtime sending faxes, doing interviews, making sample PR maps for states and writing commentaries. Such efforts have helped put PR on the national agenda where it belongs.

Meanwhile, supporters of the Center are working hard for PR in their communities. It's now quite possible that San Francisco, Eugene and Seattle will vote to adopt PR in the next year. These local campaigns should pave the way for more serious consideration of PR for state and — if McKinney's bill is adopted — congressional elections.

I am writing this letter on July 4th. Over two centuries ago our founders declared independence from Britain. Now it is time to declare independence from the British electoral system! To know that we truly are ruled by "consent of the governed," please support the Center's efforts to ensure that our votes count. Contact your representatives and let them know your thoughts on PR.

Rob Ritchie, National Director

Only socialism can save world

Works in Progress:

In response to "Offering a Positive Solution" in the July issue of *Works in Progress*.

The workers getting control of the workplace and getting full value for their labor cannot work because (1) You cannot get worker control (or Socialism) piece by piece in a capitalist system because; (2) Capitalists only let workers have what is not profitable. (3) As capitalists cannot bury Karl Marx and Socialism they welcome reforms that do not lead to socialism but a side road to nowhere. Even if the cooperative works in Spain, there are still going to be wars, (for market and raw materials) poisons in air, land and water, radiation wastes and misuse, inflation (theft of savings) AIDS, poverty, rape of the environment, discrimination of all kinds and on and on. The above solutions can only come with genuine socialism. Only genuine socialism according to Karl Marx can save the world. To vote the capitalists out at the ballot box and take control of the workplace can only be accomplished when the giant "labor" wakes up and the Socialist Labor Party of America gets rid of of capitalism forever. S.L.P. P.O. Box 70517 Sunnyvale, California 94086-0517.

Milton A. Poulos

Viewers Bring Back TV NATION

Friends of TV Nation,

The enormous volume of mail and phone calls from you has resulted in TV NATION being picked up by the FOX network for this summer. Let me tell you, I've seen it firsthand—viewer response to the network *does* have a significant impact.

TV NATION will appear on your local FOX station beginning Friday, July 21, at 8:00 pm. We will be on for 7 weeks with all new shows.

Please tell your friends and neighbors to watch. (Friday night's a good time for a TV NATION party!)

We have a great season planned for our show. We're trying to pack as much as we can into each hour and some critics are already saying we've topped last year's successful run.

As you know, it's not easy getting this kind of show on TV. The fact that we've been able to get it on twice—first on NBC, now on FOX—still amazes me. I would like TV NATION to stay on the air for more than just this summer. Please let the network know how you feel about our

show. You can reach them at:

FOX Broadcasting Co., Director of Programming
10201 West Pico Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90035
or e-mail: foxnet@delphi.com

If you have access to a computer, you can reach us at:

tvnatfans@aol.com
You can contact this same e-mail address if you would like to be on the TV NATION e-mail mailing list. Our web site is:

HTTP://tvnation.spe.sony.com/tvn and we regularly put information out on the newsgroup atl.tv.tv-nation.

Thanks again for watching and supporting us. Please stay in touch.

Michael Moore

Please contact FOX Broadcasting to let them know that you want to watch shows dealing with working class issues. It's important!

If you would like to contact Michael and you don't have access to the Internet, you can also write to him at TV NATION, P.O. Box 5297, New York, NY 10185.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Mission Statement: This organization is dedicated to promoting mutual understanding among diverse cultural groups and providing a voice for peoples disenfranchised by the dominant culture. We encourage the presentation of material by those most affected by exclusionary and unfair practices. Our aim is to explore the meanings of injustice and democratic participation in our society and in relation to the emerging global transition.

Anti-Discrimination Clause: We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those oppressed in this society, and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

The following statement will become part of the Editorial Policy and will be the governing tool for the Anti-Discrimination Clause: *WIP will make every effort to work with the contributor of material considered by WIP to be offensive in order to reach a mutually agreed upon*

resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.

WORKERS IN PROGRESS

Dave Campbell	Hali Panneton
Tom Freeman	Dave Ridgeway
Greg Hohnholt	Chris Russo
Teresa Jennings	Marie Smith
Jerome Johnson	Sylvia Smith
Zachary D. Lyons	Pat Tassoni
Evelyn Montague	Dave Zink

Works In Progress is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the Workers In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

Correspondence/articles are always welcome. Articles on disk (text preferred). WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions. For editing purposes, please enclose your phone number. Send submissions to Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507.

Picket Local Pizza Hut

Fri., August 4th from 6-8pm
5300 Capitol Blvd,
Tumwater

To protest their selection of Rush Limbaugh as their latest spokesperson

Call 705-2726 for info.

Benefit for Friends of the Fleetwood

Sat Night Dance Party
August 5th at Thekla's

Cover charge proceeds go to the Friends of the Fleetwood.

Call 352-5780 for info.

Olympia Film Society's Fifteenth Anniversary and Annual Membership Rendezvous

Sun., August 6

3 - 5 pm at Capitol Theater

- Free passes, refreshments, t-shirts, etc.
- World Premieres, budget status, decisions

Call OFS at 754-6670 for info.

Summer Giving

Rummage Sale to Benefit
Bread & Roses

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

114 Cherry Street

(between 4th & State St.)

9 am - 6 pm

DONATIONS NEEDED

Bring 2 cans of food for Bread & Roses; Get 1 bag of clothes

Support Eastside Women's Health

safe and legal health care, and a woman's right to choose

Thursdays 8:30 am - 3 pm
1100 Eastside Street NE

WIP Schedule

WIP article submission
deadline is:

Friday, Aug 18

On that day, there will be a meeting at SPEECH (218 Fourth Ave) at 6 pm. Call 705-2726 for info.

Proofreading Meeting

Tuesday, Aug 22 at 7pm
Olympia Timberland Library

Advertising Info

⇒ Dave Campbell
at 352-6132

Inch Rate \$7.50
Discounts available

WORKS IN PROGRESS: PO Box 295 Olympia, WA 98507 (360) 705-2726

Capitol Clubhouse

A Brief History of Mental Illness

Katherine McCarthy-MacRae

"They give you all kinds of medications for your mind and your body but...there's no pill for loneliness." Capitol Clubhouse member

Mental Illness has been recorded throughout history. Its symptoms include delusions, visual and aural hallucinations, and paranoia. King Saul of Israel (11th century), suffered from recurrent manic-depressive episodes. Hercules, of Greek mythology, seems to have been afflicted with convulsive seizures accompanied by homicidal fugue-type reactions. Tamerlane (1336-1405) was particularly fond of building pyramids of human skulls. George III of England was known as the "mad monarch". Rousseau (1712-1778) was obsessed with fears of secret enemies and thought Prussia, England, France and the king, priests, and others were waging a terrible war against him.

Mental illness has been seen as punishment, evil, demon possession, laziness, or bad breeding. It was generally believed that hard work, prayer and corporal punishment could turn the behaviors and speech into what was considered acceptable by society. The exceptions to this belief were either found in primitive societies, with social reformers, or other radical factions.

With Dorothea Dix's successful campaign in the early 20th century, for federal funds from the U.S. Congress to establish safe "asylums" for the homeless and abused mental patients, came the first step for nationally recognizing that individuals with mental illness had the same rights and needs for protection as other citizens of the United States.

Psychotropic drugs came into general use in the 1950's. The early results fostered the unrealistic notion that the vast majority and perhaps all mental patients could be stabilized in relatively short periods of time. It was thought that they would never need to be rehospitalized, could work competitively, form intimate relationships, pay taxes, and be normal--what ever that means.

The new and growing psychoanalytic movement, based on the works of Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung which popularized concepts of unconscious motivations, furthered these beliefs. The theory being that mental illness was caused by unconscious motivations, which, once uncovered, would free the individual of their bizarre symptoms. Psychiatrist Thomas Szasz's much publicized works championed the idea that "mental illness did not exist," and that this was a cruel joke that robbed those labeled mentally ill of their liberty. These things motivated fiscally minded legislators. They seized these ideas because they were told that large psychiatric hospitals were unnecessary and that community care would be more humane and cheaper for the taxpayer. Neither has proved correct.

The Civil Rights movement of the 60's brought strong pressure for much needed reform. Patients were finally granted the right to "periodic re-

views" and "treatment in the least restrictive setting". The Community Mental Health Construction act was passed in 1963. This led to the national trend in "deinstitutionalizing" and current downsizing of Public mental hospitals. Public mental hospital populations decreased from 559,000 in 1955 to 112,000 in 1988. State Mental Health Directors stated in a 1988 report that the trend had begun to reverse. State mental hospi-

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"I lived at Western twice a long time ago. At first I was angry because I didn't want to leave my home. After awhile I didn't mind. I had a friend named Anna. She went to Idaho to live with her sister. One summer we canned eighty quarts of carrots. They looked so pretty in their jars. I helped pick them, too. When I went home I did lots of canning. After my husband died they put me here. I don't know how long I've been here. I never can carrots anymore."

Geriatric Nursing Home Resident

tals were showing gradual but steady increases in population. Washington, like some other states has continued to downsize its two state institutions because of the monetary incentives built into the reform legislation

Today there are more than 200,000 individuals with mental illness residing in nursing homes. Many of these are on technically lock wings. There are more than 110,000 in short term psychiatric community hospitals, and hundreds of thousands living in "group homes" or "intermediate care facilities." These are, generally, mini-institutions providing care for 40 or 50 people to more than 500 people.

Health Coordinating Finance Administration (HCFA) rulings and Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act ((C)OBRA) has tried to force states, including Washington to establish small residential homes with 16 or less persons. This has resulted in appropriations for individualized care in supported living or increased outreach to persons living in larger facilities. In Washington, many community mental health centers, required to provide continuity of care are either developing their own residential facilities or are acquiring Section 8 Public Housing Certificates which allow them to place clients in small apartments.

Hundreds of thousands wander the streets, despite these efforts. Many sleep in alleys or on mission floors. Many revolve through the costly criminal justice system - most for misdemeanor violations, victims of laws which ignore practical treatments in favor of civil rights. Laws which were inspired to keep the mentally ill from abuses in the social/health care system, now keep them from the treatment they need.

Washington has seen a 300% increase in the arrest rate of persons with mental illness. Justin Freiman, former Assistant Secretary of Washington's Department of Corrections stated, "one third of the state's

ness. The American Journal of Psychiatry published a report by William Fisher, Ph.D., in 1982 that stated that even resource rich communities are not able to reduce the recidivism.

The Mental Health Systems Act passed by Congress in 1980 incorporated many of the recommendations of the National Institute of Mental Health's (NIMH) National Plan for the Chronically Mentally Ill, including improved coordination among agencies on all levels of government.

However, this was rescinded in 1981 after a change in administration and replaced ((C)OBRA) mentioned above. This legislation removed many federal protections and consolidated funding into block grants and shifting federal responsibility to state authorities.

In the early 1970's, families of deinstitutionalized patients, social service professionals, and the consumers themselves began to organize into self-help and advocacy groups. This movement has had a profound impact upon public recognition of the unmet needs of consumers, their families, and their communities.

The National Institute of Mental Health has lobbied for increased funding for basic research and for community Support Programs (CSP) and has supported consumer advocacy groups. The Mental Health Division receives CSP funds from NIMH and subcontracts with community mental health centers to insure that the most severely mentally ill individuals have "case managers" who monitor their clients on a day to day basis, assist with housing, and supervise finances.

Washington used the CSP as a model for its revised Community Mental Health Services Act (RCW 71.24) This law complete with its amendments (2ESSB 5400) established the Regional Support Network (RSN) as the primary agent for the care and treatment of the acute and chronically mentally ill as well as other at risk groups.

An important intent of a portion of this legislation is to shift the pattern of care away from day treatment programs where individuals came to the program to case management and outreach to individuals in their place of residence. Often this delivery leaves the person feeling more isolated and alienated from society than programs like day treatment which gets them out into more activities.

Another day treatment replacement program is a combination social/vocational rehabilitation based on Fountain House with a life time membership concept. Unfortunately, few professionals have the training to manage the programs so zealously promoted. The expectations of the Fountain House model is that the members will be able to transition into independent living upon completion of the vocation training. Studies show that only 15 - 20%, once trained can maintain this goal. Many never complete the training because of the nature of their illness. (PORTAL, 1988)

Housing both nationally and in Washington state is a major problem. A report to the state legislature by the Health Care and Corrections Committee stated that housing was the most critically needed component in the care system for persons with mental illness. Despite the study findings and large increases in funding few increases in housing have occurred. This means that the most troubled go without a place to call home.

Guidelines established by OBRA compound the problem by continual shifts in responsibility. The Federal government passed it on to the states. They in turn have passed it on to the local regions. Who in turn can't decide whether to pass it to counties or to cities. No level of government has been willing to admit that individuals with long-term, persistent symptoms will require the full range of supports that were once provided for in state and county hospitals. The shifts in responsibility allows RSN's to contract for residential treatment services. Once these services are established, Washington state will have reconstructed within urban settings the same programs which were systematically maligned and destroyed two decades ago in pastoral settings.

It is only within the last thirty years that most public hospitals were at least partially and in some cases wholly self-supporting. The least dysfunctional made furniture, grew vegetables, worked on farms, or engaged in other activities. Many of those people had found what thousands of homeless chronic mentally ill are searching for today. They had a permanent home, purposeful work, familiar faces, generally humane care and the best the professionals of that era had to offer.

Capitol Clubhouse is trying to provide services to all who apply, regardless of where they are in their illness. With cut backs in the budget this is harder for them to do, but the program will go on. Volunteers are needed for activities, administrative support and donations of all kinds are accepted.

Thanks all those who stopped by our booth at Lakefair and all those who came to our garage sale. Please stop in and visit the Clubhouse during the week. Our hours are from 9 am to 4 PM, Mon. through Sat. For more information: (360) 357-2582.

Along the Color Line

Justice for Mumia Abu-Jamal

Dr. Manning Marable

The American criminal justice system is, in part, an institution designed to perpetuate black oppression. It is no accident, for example, that nearly one-quarter of all young black men between the ages of 18 and 29 years old in the U.S., are either in prison, on probation or parole, or awaiting trial. It is no accident that African-Americans and Latinos convicted of crimes routinely receive much longer prison sentences than whites who commit the same crimes.

But the outstanding element of coercion within the system of legal punishment remains the death penalty. As criminal justice scholar David Baldus observed, several years ago, any black person is 4.3 times more likely to be given the death penalty than any white person under the same circumstances. Since 1900, thousands of African-Americans have been either executed by prison officials, police or lynched by white mobs, all for the defense of white supremacy. In the past century, the total number of white Americans executed for either murder of a black person, or the rape of black women, is *less than five*.

It is in this repressive context that we must consider the case of Mumia Abu-Jamal. An outstanding African-American radio journalist and political commentator, Jamal established a strong following in Philadelphia in the early 1980s. Jamal's reports documenting widespread police brutality and political repression in that city were broadcast nationally on National Public Radio and other networks. In 1981, Jamal was arrested and charged with the killing of a police officer, Daniel Faulkner.

Jamal had been shot by the police at the scene and then was beaten into critical condition.

The prosecution's case against Jamal was anything but strong. Four eyewitnesses described a person fleeing the murder scene; Jamal had been so severely injured that physically he could not have run. Ballistics experts failed to match Jamal's legally-registered gun to any bullets at the scene or in the officer's body. One eyewitness at the trial could not identify Jamal as the shooter, and was ordered by the prosecution not to talk with the defense. One trial witness was so harassed and hounded by the

to death than any other judge in the United States. Of the thirty-one individuals sentenced to be executed by Judge Sabo, *all but two were people of color*. The prosecution was even permitted to interrogate Jamal about his membership as a teenager in the Black Panther Party. Predictably, the jury convicted Jamal, and Judge Sabo ordered him to die.

In his years on death row in Pennsylvania, Mumia Abu-Jamal has refused to be silenced. His political analysis and commentaries have been published in a new book, *Live From Death Row*. But on June 2 this year, the Governor of Pennsylvania signed

"In the struggle to stop the execution, we are doing more than just saving the life of an innocent man. We strike a blow for freedom against a criminal justice system pervasive with racism."

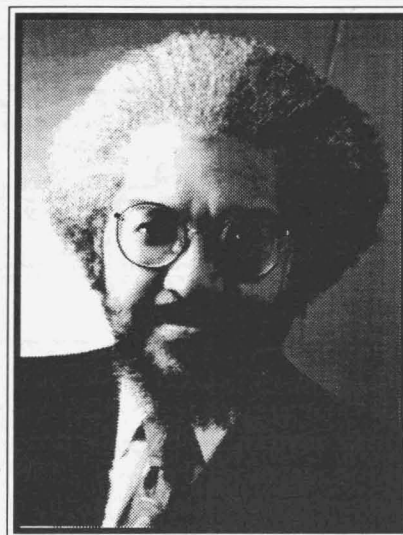
police and prosecutors that he left Philadelphia prior to the trial; he had reported that Jamal was not involved in the crime, and that the real shooter had actually fled the scene.

None of the evidence meant anything to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. All that mattered was that a police officer was dead, and that a black man had to be executed for the crime, whether he was personally innocent or guilty. During the jury selection process, Jamal was given an incompetent public defender. The prosecution challenged and removed eleven black jurors without cause. As a result, all but two jurors were white. Supervising the trial was Judge Albert Sabo, who had sentenced more people

Jamal's death warrant. If nothing is done to halt this legal process, Jamal will be executed on August 17, 1995.

Intellectuals, public officials, journalists and hundreds of prominent public leaders nationally and internationally have rallied in support of Mumia Abu-Jamal. In the struggle to stop the execution, we are doing more than just saving the life of an innocent man. We strike a blow for freedom against a criminal justice system pervasive with racism. We take a stand for justice against a legal system which punishes thousands of black and Latino young men for crimes while white men are permitted to go free. By fighting to save the life of Mumia Abu-Jamal, we struggle for a truly just and democratic society.

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of History and Director of the Institute for Research in African-American Studies, Columbia University, New York City. "Along the Color Line" appears in 300 newspapers and journals and is broadcast by over 80 radio stations worldwide. ♦



write...fax...phone

The defense has filed yet another appeal on behalf of Mumia Abu-Jamal on June 5, 1995. It also counts on obtaining a stay of execution.

Of equal importance is to bear pressure on Judge Albert Sabo to recuse himself from presiding over a re-trial of Mumia Abu-Jamal should it be granted, for his flawed record seems to make him unfit to sit on any death-row appeal, let alone that of Mumia Abu-Jamal.

What can you do?

Write/fax/phone the following demanding a recusal of Mr. Albert Sabo:

Judge Legrome Davis
1408 One East Penn Square
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 686-9534, (215) 686-2865 (fax)

Judge Alex Bonavita Cola
(Administrative Judge)
516 City Hall
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 686-3770, (215) 567-7328 (fax)

Judge Albert Sabo
1286 Wanamaker
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 686-5100, (215) 563-1623 (fax)

Also write/phone/fax:
Governor Thomas Ridge
Main Capitol Building, Room 225
Harrisburg, PA 17120
(717) 787-2500, (717) 783-3369 (fax)

Send financial donations to support:
Equal Justice U.S.A.
Box 5206 Hyattsville, MD 20782
(301) 699-0042

Police and The Olympian Losers

High Five For The Trio

Information about important events and situations that people don't have access to through the mainstream media can be handed out at community events. The Lakefair parade is a wonderful opportunity to get information out to large numbers of people because it attracts 90,000 or so people, in addition to being broadcast on cable-access. Elected officials and political parties are at them in droves. Among the floats with flowers and antique cars, Lakefair obviously has space for political issues and we would also add social justice issues too.

At this year's Lakefair parade, three people tried to bring a level of intelligence and connection to the community by handing out Mumia information on police and court corruption in a civilized manner. Kevin Ranker, Hali Panneton, and Craig Hymson were arrested for exercising freedom of speech. They were booked on suspicion of disorderly conduct and interfering with a public event. Since when is a banner against racism, leaflets, and a float of the Statue of Liberty disorderly conduct in a community parade?

What has happened to the trio is a political statement. According to witnesses, the police attacked them, using excessive force, threw them to the asphalt, and took them to jail. In the process, the police broke the Statue of Liberty. *The Olympian's* coverage has been nothing short of slander against the political trio. Taking the police reports as evidence of the trio's guilt the *Olympian* has passed sentence on them before they have had their day in court. By this example, Freedom of Speech is at odds with the Freedom of the Press in the Land of Liberty.

Ironically, there could be no better demonstration of the injustice of our police/legal/press complex, that is now in the process of murdering Mumia Abu-Jamal. Mumia who? The mainstream media doesn't give time to this man, who was railroaded by our police and court systems, and is now on death row for a crime he didn't commit.

For any witnesses interested in making a statement on what you saw at Lakefair, call WIP at 705-2726. *Works In Progress* will be following this travesty of justice closely.

Benefit for Mumia Abu-Jamal

Thursday, August 3rd @ 7:30pm
Capitol Theater

8 bands, 5 genres, four bucks:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| • The Cogs & The Drips | PUNK |
| • Black Anger | HIP-HOP |
| • The Seds & The Investigators | SKA |
| • Casey Neill | ECO-FOLK |
| • PUD | |

Plus music from The Andes and Latin America

Rally to Stop the Execution of Mumia Abu-Jamal

Saturday, August 12th 7pm
Seattle Central Community College

Carpools from Olympia meet at 5pm at the Asterisk

To get involved locally, leave a message at 866-6000 x6636 and/or come to our strategy meetings Wednesdays at 5pm at Sylvester Park in downtown Oly.

Local Prosecutor Pilfers Goods From Homeless Entrepreneur

Greg Hohnholt

Note: This article was intended to run in last month's issue, but was accidentally committed. We are running it late because it is still relevant to homeless or low income folks selling Real Change, a Seattle-based publication that features news and information concerning life on the street and strategies for getting into housing.

An unknown Thurston County prosecuting attorney stole a copy of a *Real Change* newspaper from Michael J. Campbell, a homeless man, on May 30 in front of the Thurston County courthouse. When confronted by Campbell, the attorney argued that the paper only required a donation, and that he was not bound to pay the standard one dollar asking price. A heated exchange followed, prompting Thurston County sheriffs to restrain Campbell and search him. After discovering a small pipe, Campbell was arrested and taken into custody.

Campbell spent three days in jail and was released. The attorney, on the other hand, was let off scot free, and never paid Campbell for his newspaper.

What is Real Change?

Real Change is a Seattle-produced newspaper that is sold by homeless entrepreneurs wishing to earn money on a 'small business' profit model. Prospective salespersons are required to sign a vendor's agreement where they agree to wear a badge and sell the paper in a responsible manner.

After signing, the vendors pay a distributor twenty-five cents a copy, and sell them for \$1, usually to pedestrians on the streets of Seattle.

Real Change has been enormously successful, with homeless vendors in Seattle selling about 20,000 - 25,000 copies a month. Not surprisingly, many Seattle residents seem to prefer the homeless selling a quality newspaper rather than simply panhandling change, and, for the most part, they have supported the paper by buying

right hand corner. Mr. Campbell told us that the attorney kept harping on the fact the paper only asked for a donation, therefore, *ipso facto*, he felt he was fully within his rights to make a zero donation and take the paper for free. Of course, depriving a homeless man of a legitimate means to make a few dollars when you are earning at least \$40,000 a year is, by any sane person's moral estimation, despicable, but this fact didn't deter one of Thurston County's crack pros-

"... depriving a homeless man of a legitimate means to make a few dollars when you are earning at least \$40,000 a year is, by any sane person's moral estimation, despicable..."

it regularly. Last April, *Real Change* established an Olympia distributor, who started signing up vendors, one of whom was Campbell.

A brief editorial

Most would agree that this "attorney's" behavior is a disgrace to his profession, but it illustrates, I believe, a very vital truth about the overclass' perceptions of the poor. No matter how much they say they want the homeless to take responsibility for their own lives, no matter how much they say they "feel their frustration with their inability to pull their own lives back together," or "understand their plight," their first impulse, when push comes to shove, is to react out of unconscious fear and divisiveness.

This "attorney's" defense for his behavior was that *Real Change* does not list a price, but only says "One dollar Donation" in the upper

cutting attorneys from exercising his 'legal' right to take *Real Change* for free.

Freedom of information, my eye

Works in Progress attempted to discover the name of the prosecuting attorney, but came up against a bureaucratic roadblock of questionable repute. When a WiP representative went to the county clerk's office to get a list of the attorney's names, we were told that we could not be given the names for security reasons. An employee explained that the office feared reprisals from angry litigants seeking revenge; i.e. a "Cape Fear" scenario.

How much you wanna bet that if I went in there with a flashy suit and a briefcase I would get those names?

Postscript: The *Real Change* vendor has told us that Campbell hasn't come back for more papers. Many other vendors have not come back to sell recent issues of *Real Change*, either. We are hard pressed to find an explanation for this trend, considering that the majority of the vendors

(Bread & Roses continued.)

ers frequent the Bread and Roses area as well—it's a perfect target for predator-type personalities. Many drop-in clients have problems with drug and alcohol addictions and are potential victims of the dealers. Bread and Roses staff and other clients are well aware of the problem and keep their eyes open for suspicious activity and transactions. When such activity is observed the proper procedures are followed to eradicate them in accordance with local law enforcement. Once again that is a matter for local authorities. The Bread and Roses staff and clients do what they can to help stop this behavior, although they are certainly not professionally trained for such intervention.

New ideas are being set into motion regarding the drop in center: more open lines of communication between various social/medical services and needy clients is first and foremost. A downtown cleanup plan has been proposed to the city council by Bread and Roses and is in the works. Local law enforcement and Bread and Roses staff are working well together. The next step is better communication and strengthening relations with the community in general—and that works both ways. As long as everyone keeps an open mind and a peaceful, intelligent attitude the problem can be solved.

Many have stated recently that the drop in center is located in the wrong spot, and they are probably correct. It should be moved to a more central and convenient location downtown so people wouldn't be able to turn a blind eye and a deaf ear to the ever present problems in our society.

Are we our brother's keeper? The answer is yes—we're all members of the human race and we must take responsibility for our own. ♦

reported a strong initial response to the first issue. At this point, we're sad to say that if this trend continues, it's doubtful that *Real Change* is going to make it in Olympia.

So much for encouraging free enterprise, eh? ♦

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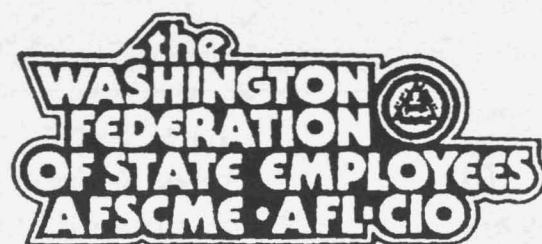
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The Aloha Inn Moving From Fear to Support

The people opposed to the Fleetwood Apartments often argue that 43 units of housing for homeless people will endanger Thurston County citizens who live, own businesses, or shop in the area. The Aloha Inn, LIHI's first project, is 56 units of transitional housing for formerly homeless adults. Participants can live in the housing for up to 6 months. The project is self-managed by the participants. Every week a General Assembly of all the residents meet to make decisions and hear reports of the different committees. The Executive Committee can require a participant to leave if they fail to follow the rules.

The Fleetwood Apartments will be permanent housing and therefore will have a much lower turnover rate. The building will be similar to other downtown apartments with the exception that those who live there will have been homeless. The Fleetwood Apartments will also be self-managed, with all residents participating in the maintenance, and development and en-

forcement of program policies.

Many members of the Aloha's neighborhood, Queen Anne Hill in Seattle, fought the project. They argued that the project would increase crime in the area, local businesses would suffer, and the community members would feel unsafe on the street. Now the Queen Anne community embraces the project. Most original opponents are now supportive and have taken an active role in shaping the project.

Newspaper articles have shown the transformation in community attitudes. The letter from Irv Israel, owner of the Cascade Market located across the street from the Aloha, shows how one business owner found his initial fears to be unwarranted. (See insert at right.)

Please call Letitia Flynt with Friends of the Fleetwood at 360-352-5780 or Sharon Lee or Ginger Segel with the Low Income Housing Institute at 206-727-0355 if you want more information about the Fleetwood Apartments. ♦

To whom it may concern:

I am the proprietor of the Cascade Market, located across the street from the Aloha Inn. The Cascade, a family owned business, has been in operation for over 40 years. The Aloha Inn, formerly a motel, is now a transitional housing program for homeless men and women, founded by SHARE, owned by the Low Income Housing Institute and managed by the Archdiocesan Housing Authority of Catholic Community Services of Western Washington.

I had many suspicions of the Aloha Inn when it became transitional housing. I was vocal about my fears of crime and increased danger to the Neighborhood and by business. There are already many problems in this area and I did not want more.

However, over time it became clear that the Aloha Inn, SHARE, LIHI and AHA were committed to being good neighbors. In the four years of the program's existence there have been no serious incidents affecting the neighborhood with Aloha residents or visitors, and those few minor problems that occurred were dealt with by staff and residents.

Because of the security provided by the Aloha Inn, the level of prostitution, drug use and other crime has decreased in the immediate neighborhood. Aloha residents participate in Neighborhood trash clean ups, painted a nice mural in the nearby underpass, and keep their place up. They meet regularly with a neighborhood group to make sure things are going well.

I now have no complaints about the Aloha Inn, and in fact have been pleased to donate flowers and goods to their anniversaries and other special events. I wish them well as they help people get on their feet.

Irv Israel, Cascade Market

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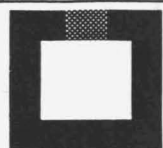
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Good News about Business & the Fleetwood

Vince Brown, an attorney working for low income folks through the Puget Sound Legal Assistance Foundation, has been talking to business people. His aim is to gather signatures from downtown businesses that endorse the Fleetwood project. *Works in Progress* encourages you to stop in and thank these business owners, and patronize them if you can:

Business	Signatory or signatories
Traditions	Dick Meyer
David Stein and Associates	David Stein
Thekla	Pit Kwiecinski
Smithfield Cafe	S.J. Boyle
Danger Room Comics	Patrick Mapp and Kendra Jennings
Electric Rose Tattoo Studio	Sean Lindseth
Proffitt's Cafe	Mike and Chris Proffitt
Pathways Books	Kay C. Ridgeway
Pleasant Peasant	Jennifer Turner and Drew Macy
Five Corners	James and Daniela Staples
Positively Fourth St. Records	Win Vidor
The Poppinjay	Janis Dean
Bulldog News	Annie Murphy
Fish Brewing Co. (Fish Tail Ale)	Mary and Crane Horton
Budd Bay Realty	Jeff Crandell and Frank Swinkey
Radiance Herbs and Massage	Carolyn Lacey
Archibald Sisters	Phil Rollins and Suzie Archibald
Ritzi Rags	Deanna Tabor
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Manufacturing Consent In Thurston County

Business Manipulation of an All-Too-Willing Media

Pat Tassoni

The *Olympian* has repeatedly referred to the opposition to the Fleetwood proposal for apartments as consisting of downtown businesses and concerned citizens. As I've seen this opposition play itself out in the Letters to the Editor, I see few if any concerned citizens' input. The opposition is composed of those with vested interests, which is to say fearful downtown business people, who have been able to present their case to the public through the *Olympian*. In fact all the letters (except two) have come from businesspeople who had already expressed their opposition in other ways.

Let's use the starting point of the *Olympian's* editorial on March 27, chastising downtown businesses for boycotting a public forum organized by city officials to give businesses an opportunity to express their concerns to the Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI). The letters to the editor and a public forum sponsored by the *Olympian* resulted in an editorial reversal on May 14. That *Olympian's* editorial extolled the positions and questions asked of LIHI which were raised by downtown businesses and "concerned citizens" at the public forum. In it, the *Olympian* also attacked the character and content of Sharon Lee, director of LIHI. (For a deconstructive analysis of that editorial see June's WIP.)

Worth repeating here is to point out that the only "concerned citizens" there that were given the opportunity to ask directed questions were antagonistic downtown business owners and their affiliates. Among them were: Sandy Desner of Deskoba, Inc. (co-president of the Olympia Downtown Business Association, whose fellow co-president Dean Jones of Four Seasons Books sat on the panel), Steve Harrington of the Urban Onion, Kelly Turk and Ruth Davis of Kelly's Auto, Joe Illing of Illing Realty and leader of Friends of Sylvester Park. Also called upon in the audience by panel member County Commissioner Dick Nichols to give some information was County Assessor Kevin O'Sullivan. Local attorney Shawn Newman's position on the forum panel was bought and paid for by fearful downtown merchants including Washington Travel, Kelly's Auto, Storman's, Urban Onion, Coast Office Equipment, and Demargerie Fine Lingerie.

As we track in the *Olympian* the letters to the editor that helped change their editorial mind between March 27 and May 14, we find three letters clearly in support of the Fleetwood apartments and only two in opposition. The "concerned citizens" who wrote in opposition were Ruth Davis on April 5 and Kelly Turk on April 21. As previously mentioned they are both of Kelly's Auto (Turk being owner) and have been listed as retaining the services of Shawn Newman.

In line with their pro-business format, the *Olympian* obviously gives more credibility to business owners on issues even ones like affordable housing. The wealth of support the opponents of the Fleetwood were able to "recruit" with the help of the *Olympian* can be observed in the following months' collection of Letters to the Editor. In fact, all but two are business people.

For the remainder of May, after the new editorial, the *Olympian* published five letters in opposition to the Fleetwood apartments and one in support. On May 16, Bob Franzen wrote in opposition. Franzen is from Coast Office, which is listed as retaining the services of Newman. On May 17, Greg Miller of downtown's Bartel's Men Store wrote in opposition. When confronted on signing a petition and being listed in WIP as doing so, he accused WIP of stealing the petition from a store counter. The petition is in fact public information at city hall. County Assessor and small businessman (O'Sullivan's Market) Kevin O'Sullivan wrote in opposition on May 20. On May 27, Warren Arnold, owner of downtown's Arnold's Enterprises, wrote in opposition. On May 28, Cathy Berlin, from Coast Office (which is listed as retaining the services of Newman), wrote to voice her opposition to the Fleetwood.

During the month of June, the Editorial page included two clearly sup-

portive and two opposing letters. On June 3, Court Niemi, from Coast Office (which is listed as retaining the services of Newman), and "concerned citizen" Preston Brockett wrote let-

"There is little public opposition to the Fleetwood, and certainly none from concerned citizens in leadership roles."

ters in opposition. I was unable to get a hold of Brockett to confirm his interest. Also making another appearance in opposition was Turk, this time being given the Sounding Off space on June 29. Jeff Johnson had had a supportive Sounding Off column on June 26.

As of July 27, one supportive and one opposing letter had appeared in the *Olympian*. On July 7, "concerned citizen" (unconfirmed, because he was away on vacation) Joe Zambone, wrote in opposition.

As someone who has been follow-

ing the Fleetwood issue, I haven't been fooled by the blatant attempt to create controversy by a handful of people. There is little public opposition to the Fleetwood, and certainly none from concerned citizens in leadership roles. On the other hand, only homeless advocates, formerly homeless, and other concerned citizens are leading the support for the Fleetwood, which

is only needed because there are a few in opposition.

And it would appear that the *Olympian* is all too willing to give this small minority the forum for manufacturing the consent that has influenced our elected city officials and stalled low-income housing. Either the *Olympian* has been duped by this minority or the *Olympian* handed it to them on a silver platter. (By the way, the *Olympian* still hasn't done a story on the downtown businesses that are in support of the Fleetwood project.) ♦

Mapping the Political Structure of Thurston County Manipulation of an All-Too-Willing County Commission

Pat Tassoni

Businesses and elected officials make good bed-fellows. The Olympia City Council, without legal basis, held up writing a CHAS letter for the Fleetwood project and have stalled the project because of pressure from a small minority of businesses. What else could it be? LIHI's application is impeccable. They have been awarded money from state and federal sources based on it. LIHI has a successful record, but still that isn't good enough for the city or the county.

The county continues to hold up accepting an awarded block grant of \$450,000 for the Fleetwood. This money won't stop the Fleetwood from happening; it will only make the accommodations there less comfortable. Amenities like private bathrooms, a fully accessible building, and a recreation room may have to be cut from the design without the awarded grant. This grant was awarded to the Fleetwood project as the Community Development Block Grant Fund's number one rated priority around the state. It beat out over fifty other projects. The grant was awarded by experts in housing issues, community development issues, and community services issues. One of the reasons it was awarded was because of the site's proximity to other services, which is one (if not the most important) problem with the project according to the minority opposition.

A refusal of the award by the county, which is unheard of, would result in the Community, Trade, and Economic Development (CTED) looking twice at any application coming from Thurston County. They give grants for other things like sewer projects, etc. Alienating federal and state sources of funding will only increase the financial burden of local governments to fund solutions.

The acceptance of the grant is the only way to get some local control over the project. The way it works is CTED would have a contract with the county and CTED has a contract with

LIHI. The city doesn't have a contract with LIHI. The Housing Trust Fund does have a contract with LIHI, but the city does not. The county is the only level that can get some control over the project. By not accepting the grant, not only is funding for amenities cut, but also control is lost.

So why is all the stalling going on by the county? Perhaps they were hoping to derail the whole project. But why? Let's look at the minority opposition and their connections with the County Commissioners.

Stephen Harrington, of the Urban Onion and retainer of the services of Shawn Newman, unsuccessfully ran in 1984 for County Commissioner. According to Fleetwood-supporting downtown businesses, the Harringtons are really the most active leaders against the Fleetwood. I personally witnessed them seeking signatures for a petition that would later be submitted to the City Council. Through the Public Disclosure Com-

mission, I discovered that Judy Wilson, current County Commissioner, had contributed to his campaign twice. She also contributed three times to his unsuccessful bid in 1988 for Thurston County treasurer. Harrington and Wilson have shared political interests and at the very least a decade of friendship. When asked how she first heard about the opposition to the Fleetwood, Wilson replied, "Mr. Harrington first brought up concerns at a County Commissioner meeting in October." The first record of downtown business opposition was in April. That was presented to the Commissioners by Elyse Harrington of the Urban Onion.

"By our county commissioners not accepting the grant, not only is funding for amenities at the Fleetwood cut, but control over the project is lost as well."

But wait! Who else contributed to Harrington's unsuccessful bid for treasurer? None other than County Commissioner Dick Nichols. He donated

twice. (So did downtown property owner Joe Illing from the Save Sylvester Park campaign. Small town, isn't it?) But wait, guess who contributed to Nichols' 1992 campaign? Steve and Elyse Harrington. They donated money twice. Nichols and the Harringtons also have at least a political relationship that goes back about a decade.

And that leaves County Commissioner Diane Oberquell. She ran in 1992; the same year her husband Argal ran unsuccessfully for Superior Court Judge. (His office is located in the Lodoro complex, which Steve Cooper wanted to trade for the Fleetwood as a compromise. Small town, isn't it?) Warren and Judy Arnold donated money to each of their campaigns. You might remember Warren Arnold as writing a Letter to the Editor. Small town, isn't it? He owns a campaign promoting business downtown called Arnold Enterprises. He also works as an advertiser.

The Arnolds also donated items to three fundraising auctions for the Oberquells, two for Diane and one for Argal. At each of Diane's auctions they also bought items: a two-person flight/cruise and dinner for four. Also Arnold Enterprises made an in-kind contribution of pens to Argal's campaign, valued at \$450. Argal later bought some more for \$666. The Oberquells and the Arnolds have a political/social history.

Isn't it funny that everyone seems to know each other. Isn't it a small town after all? The small minority of opponents to the Fleetwood seem have a voice with the Commissioners, so that the weight of their argument can sway the Commissioners to not accept a grant that has been rated #1, over everything else in the state. Is this how things work here? ♦

(OAPP, continued)

a group of individuals pooling their rigs and their used to the needle exchange and do it all at once. And maybe more people are aware of us now. Last year I exchanged over 39,000 syringes, almost 40,000, which means there are clean syringes in circulation that come back to OAPP. Our quarterly syringe exchange was 4,400 and 76 bleach kits. I still run a one-for-one needle exchange. I talked to Thurston County Health Department and they've been doing some

nity doesn't seem to care. I haven't had a lot of support from them.

How would someone support you either financially or get involved with OAPP?

The youth group meets every Thursday. They must have set some record for stuffing condoms into little polybags that they hand out on Friday nights as part of their outreach. As far as volunteering for the needle exchange, I'm very selective about who gets to work with the injection drug users. But I can always use help with making posters

One of the primary philosophies of the project in regard to sexuality is that we put out all these pamphlets in which we say "You have rights". You have the right to make choices in your life that are right for you. You have the right to express your sexuality and be respected. And to protect yourself and your partners with live-saving information and materials. You have the right to say no to sex and you have the right to say yes when it's right for you.

tracking and although I put out 6,480 syringes last month, the number of syringes found on the street is way down. They're down below even what they were years ago. That is something I've battled for really hard. It's really important. It's part of my commitment to the community. But that doesn't mean we're not going to have problems in the future.

We haven't had a lot of support from the community. Aside from the original grant, we've had to do our own fundraising. Last year we did get a small grant. In our budget last year, we raised over \$5,000 by doing Backstage shows and stuff. There we can not only raise money, but also do outreach and establish relationships. And there's sort of a validation for the work we do when Fitz of Depression and Bikini Kill and other local bands say, "Yeah, we'll do a benefit for you." The rest of the commu-

and doing computer work. I turn back no help, but you have to be patient. It takes consistency sometimes, (for HIV/AIDS that is the answer; the availability of live saving materials and information in culturally appropriate and indigenous outreach programs). Financially, I don't care if money comes in a shoebox from the local dope-dealer, I'll put it into clean syringes. A check to OAPP would be really cool. Or help on how to research and write grants. And just be aware and educate yourself. That's the way AIDS prevention works best, brother to sister and sister to brother.

What kinds of things do you think would help more with AIDS prevention, intravenous drug use prevention and treatment here in Olympia?

I would think you would have to start with outreach because you can't come up with programs and hope for

people to access them without knowing about them. It starts with outreach.

We have a couple of people working on outreach from South Sound Advocates, but not nearly enough of them. They are very limited in what they can do and they are not a part of the culture.

Then some more culturally appropriate access to treatment and health care. I'm talking about using everything from modalities of acupuncture; establishing a still using support group so people can start to work on some of their issues before they quit using the drugs; a properly managed methadone clinic, there has been a lot of bad stuff said about methadone and a lot of poorly managed methadone clinics went on around the country; a detox facility, we have a fifty percent or less chance (much less if you are a woman) of getting someone into detox because all we have is three beds currently slated for Thurston County in Tacoma's detox. They're constantly full. It's for both alcohol and drugs.

There's a lot of talk in the county of getting our own detox, which has been going on for years. God bless your heart Mary Williams and everyone else involved with that project. Some are talking about bringing in, as near as I can tell, a non-medical detox that will give you some juice and a bed and you can just jones over there.

Vera: Oh, wonderful!

This means nothing to the heroin clientele that I work with, which isn't a lot.

That brings up the important question of how statistics show the spread of HIV in communities with needle exchanges is less than those without needle exchanges.

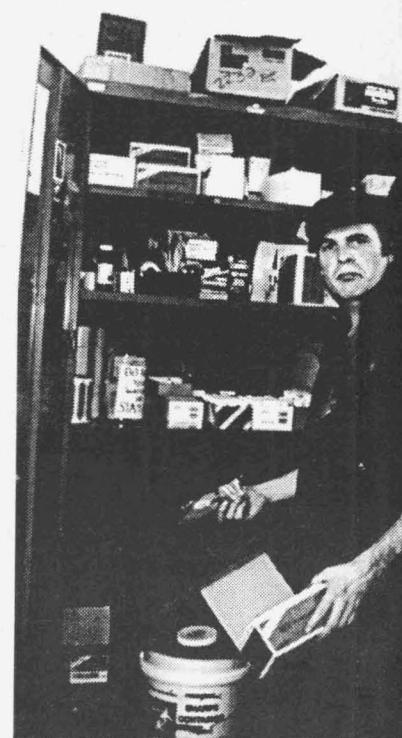
The seropositive-prevalency in this area has always been low. Whenever I talk about the low seropositive-

noticed a small decrease, and that is where we are going to keep it.

We will have seropositive injection drug users because we have people moving in and out of the area. Vera represents today's generation of injection drug user who've been around since needle exchange started. Quite often I'll go into my whole pitch with one of these people, and I'll start telling them, "don't share your syringe, don't share your cotton, don't share your cooker, and this is how you bleach your works."

And they go, like a client did the other day, "Wait a minute Dave, I've never used a needle more than once. I've always had access to clean ones, why would anyone even want to use one more than once?" That stopped me for a minute, and then I realized: that we had changed the behavior here, especially in the up-and-coming drug addicts.

Vera: The newer set is a little younger, 15 and 16 years-old, I've noticed. I was one of the younger in my circle, and I've only been doing it for 10 or 11 months. And they're uninformed. I don't understand. I don't know what circles



CDC's Recommendation On Needle Exchange

Peter Lurie's (MD, MPH, an assistant professor at the UC at SF) study released two years ago and reviewed by every major federal health agency, concluded that needle exchange programs do reduce HIV infection and may decrease drug use. In a review of the 1993 study, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended the ban on federal funding of needle exchange programs be lifted.

For now, only locally funded research is delving into the efficacy of needle exchanges, with about 77 programs now operating across the country, many illegally. Advocates from the Drug Policy Foundation in Washington say politics and President Clinton's fear of losing the 1996 election are proving formidable barriers to expanding needle exchange. Congress first banned federal funding for needle exchanges in 1988. According to the Health Omnibus Extension Program of 1988, the ban will be in effect "unless the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service determines that a demonstration needle exchange program would be effective in reducing drug abuse" and the public's risk of contracting HIV.

Drug use is a factor in a third of all AIDS cases, says CDC. The majority of women with AIDS are infected either through intravenous drug use or through sexual contact with intravenous drug users.

Excerpted from the Nation's Health, vol. XXV, no. 4, 1015 15th ST, NW Washington, DC 20005.



prevalency in this area, it's taken for granted. But I take it with a lot of conviction—that is where I come in. We're going to keep it there, we're not going to let it reach epidemic proportions, where we have to implement things. In some areas, needle exchange is barely a band-aid on the problem, only slowing the spread.

In this area, in Thurston County, we had noticed a first wave, a slow increase in seropositivity among injection drug users. I recently talked with the health department, and they have

they're doing it in, maybe whoever is just trying to get them started on it first. The circle I started in didn't just let me take off and run with it, they said if you're going to do it, you might as well do it safely.

What she's talking about is a resurgence and increase in use by youth. And about peer education, one addict telling the other addict, this is where you get your syringes, this is what you do and this is what you don't do. Peer education works with youth, it works with injection

drug users, and it works with adults.

It has been shown by research that the experimental drug user will use drugs at least twenty times before or so before they take possession of their works. First of all they are generally

in denial that they'll do this more than once or twice.

Vera: It was two months before I took responsibility for my own, two months before I took it over myself into my own hands. Other people would handle things for me. I never handled my own drugs, I never fixed it, I never shot myself because I had no idea. I had my own rig

that I would exchange, but it was two months before I did it myself.

If the needle exchange wasn't available, would you continue to use?

Vera: Yeah. I would find some. If I moved to a strange town and I don't know where the drugs are, I would find them. It wouldn't stop me.

If I see someone who doesn't know or is doing something that is going to be harmful in the long run, then I pass on my information, not in a condescending manner like a lot of young ones think. "I'm not lecturing you, but this is information that you need. It's information that you should have to be safe."

that we put out all these pamphlets in which we say "You have rights". You have the right to make choices in your life that are right for you. You have the right to express your sexuality and be respected. And to protect yourself and your partners with live-saving information and materials. You have the right to say no to sex and you have the right to say yes when it's right for you. Vera: I understand what you mean by culture. Some people don't understand me and I don't understand others. But there is this group that knows exactly what I'm going through and where I'm coming from. They can just sit there in quiet understanding and know and not be judgmental.

I knew this from the beginning because of my past. I remember once when I was beat up by this police officer about seven years ago. He was holding me on the ground and he put his knee up against my head. I hadn't resisted and I had had drugs on me. He's grinding my head right into the gravel and I could just barely get my head around, and asked him "why are you trying to hurt me?" And he said, "Because you're a doper!" That experience just drove me farther into the closet and perpetuated my drug use. It's only been in recent years that I've been able to walk down the street and see a cop — and they say HI to me now, they don't seem to be too upset about what I do even though the projects is a bit of an outlaw — It took me a while to start to get over that oppression. That oppression that says drugs is the source of all your problems. I've been clean now for four years, and sometimes my problems seem worse than some of my clients'. I wish I could say, "Hell I do drugs, no wonder everything sucks." It doesn't happen that way. Being clean is good, but it doesn't exempt you from life's problems. Everyone in the community has problems and how they deal with it. Some are on some sort of medication or some have a few drinks every day after work, but because someone does it intravenously it takes it to the evil side in people's minds. I don't advocate drug use.

Olympia AIDS Prevention Projects Needle Exchange office number is 705-4753. Office hours are 1-6pm, Monday through Friday, 114 Cherry St. If you need to get in touch with Long Hair David, his pager number is 741-1375. Remember: fight to live, fight to love, fight AIDS. ♦

Youth AIDS Prevention Projects

We are currently a part of the Olympia AIDS Prevention Projects. Our project is for youth, by youth. The materials are created by us, the peer educators. We are on the streets every Friday night educating our peers. This project deals more with safer sex, condom usage, and other stuff like that. We are trying to incorporate more needle exchange referrals in our outreach, because there are a lot of kids on the streets shooting up and they need to have the same access to clean rigs as everyone else.

Kids have been fairly receptive and some have been pretty unreceptive. Some think they have better things to do on a Friday night than talk about AIDS and safer sex. This project is mainly to reach those youth



that aren't reached by the mainstream programs. For instance in high schools, they have a mandatory AIDS prevention week. I don't think a week is going to do it. And you have a whole bunch of teachers telling you to be abstinent and that's the only thing you can be. We say you have the right to say yes to sex or to say no to sex; it's your choice. We talk a lot about communication and boundaries. Teachers are like, "you really should wait until you're married." And they don't even talk about queer youth. And women, they don't even tell them their rights or anything, and we are really in to that in everything we do. That's really important. Our program is not about being judgmental, it's about encouraging people to make choices for themselves, that they have a right to their bodies and their sexuality.

But I think we miss a lot of youth, too. If you look at our group, we're all like punks and all in this one scene and so with the hip-hop shows we try to break into other scenes. We try and we're not the most cool people for every scene, but we're out there and people know it.

In a couple of months we will be receiving our own grant and be opening up our own storefront, which means we'll be separating from OAPP. It'll be a street education center with a kind of drop-in feel, where youth can come to get what they need and talk about what they need. We'll try to do sexuality workshops where we'll be discussing issues around sexuality and youth, and that kind of stuff. We'll try to do that every couple of months.



Everyone should be informed.

I wanted to start an organization that was philosophically committed and that was activist based and had somewhat of an anarchic approach to the needs of this community. Since most of the high-risk population are of certain high-risk cultures, cultures of people — dare I say that injection drug users are a culture of people (we won't even allow them that) — and we need to meet them on their level.

One of the primary philosophies of the project in regard to sexuality is

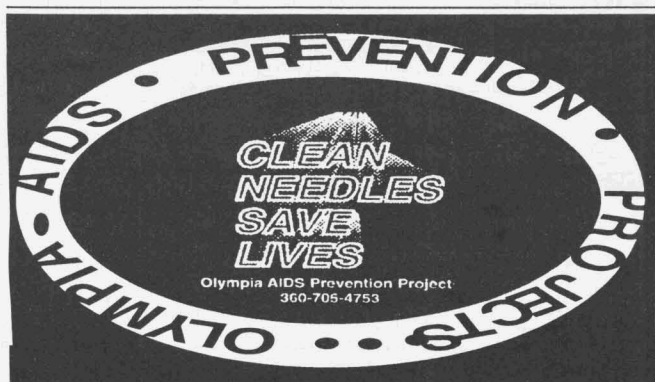
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Star Trek

How Vietnam Will Be Taught

Jerome Johnson

The following is the transcript of a lecture given by Dr. Barbara Johnson, Dean of History at Evergreen University. A participant in the Academy's Summer Forum, Dr. Johnson specializes in Earth History. On stardate 0621.31, she discussed the Vietnam War.

"Although some historians hold that the war ended on stardate 0429.75-0E, I conclude that the war really ended on stardate 0525.96-0E — the day Ambassador Harrison landed in Hanoi, twenty-one years after the last Huey took off from the Embassy in Saigon.

"We've seen how terrible the war was for Southeast Asia; with millions of casualties — many civilian. The land, ravaged by crude high explosives and chemical weapons. The people were exhausted but the shooting was over, and their recovery began on that April day.

"The attitude of the people of the

'United States' was very different. Although the U.S. had suffered much less than Vietnam — 72,000 dead (mostly soldiers) and its homeland untouched — the people held a deep grudge against Vietnam. There was a sense of — oh, that's all right, yes, Captain?"

Q: "Ask me, they were just pissed 'cause it was the first war they ever lost. Sour grapes. Right?"

A: "Yes. But there was real grief over the dead and missing. Vietnam was the hottest battle of the Cold War, and we know how wrenching an experience psychologically it was for the U.S. The 'loss' in Vietnam was seen by some as a sign of weakness, an opportunity the Russians or Chinese might 'take advantage of.' And of course there was the economic factor, an irony I'll touch more on in a bit.

"As I said, I believe the war really ended on stardate 0525.96 OE with Harrison's arrival in Hanoi. The previous year U.S. President Bill Clinton, in an unprecedented act of political courage, had normalized relations with Vietnam, ending the twenty

years of sullen grumbling about trade and prisoners. And this was a very political move. Clinton had the reputation of being weak at home and ignorant abroad, and he was running for election. The capitalists of the late 20th and early 21st Centuries were competing more and more fiercely for shrinking resources and markets. Nation states felt more and more

Very little was said in the U.S. about the holocaust it wrought on the Vietnamese, Laotians, Cambodians, Hmong, Meo, Thai and millions of others.

threatened by the rapid proliferation of the high-intensity weapons (HIWs) of the period. Economic power and military prowess overshadowed politics.

"Recognizing Vietnam enhanced his image as a world leader. The grumblers complained that there hadn't been a 'full accounting' of prisoners, but they had been squeezing the Vietnamese for years, and one cannot get

blood from a stone. There was a lot of high-focus grief and bitterness for 2,200 U.S. prisoners in the media at the time. Very little was said in the U.S. about the holocaust it wrought on the Vietnamese, Laotians, Cambodians, Hmong, Meo, Thai and millions of others.

"But Clinton had done well. Former war heroes supported him, some of whom were high government officials. Business interests were pleased. This is the first irony of the war: during the war, the economic motives were denied or subordinated to the 'fight against World Communism.'

"The second irony is that U.S. mili-

tary forces returned to Vietnam. When Korea II began at the end of the 20th Century Vietnam leased the old naval base at Cam Ranh Bay...but that's another story. Thank you all for coming, and I'll see you at the reception."

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY:
Ensign Oko Nwembe
Starfleet Academy Library ♦

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Ecology Offers Grants for Waste Education Projects

The Washington Department of Ecology is accepting applications for public participation grants. Awards range from \$1,000 to \$50,000.

Groups of citizens and not-for-profit public interest organizations may apply. Government bodies are not eligible. The funds must be used to educate and involve citizens in waste reduction, or cleanups of hazardous waste sites.

Applications must be in Ecology's Waste Management Grants office in Lacey by 5:00 p.m., September 29. Request application packets directly from:

Department of Ecology
Waste Management Grants
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600
Telephone: (360) 407-6050

Call (360) 407-6057, for further information.

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French Fries for Supper in West Athens, Maine

Why the Poor Eat So Poorly

Steven Rubin

Maine is famous for two foods: lobster and potatoes. The people of West Athens are familiar with only one of these—potatoes. If you are what you eat, then the residents of this small impoverished village are starches and meat. The diet in this town is a combination of country cooking and junk food.

There are always potatoes. Grown in nearby Aroostook County, they are sold at Jim's Store in Athens, a 50 pound bag for about \$8.00. Families go through 50 pounds in no time: mash them, fry them, grate them and boil them. Toss them in soups, grill them on the wood stove, bake them in campfires, and sometimes just eat them raw like an apple.

Kind you buy three to four boxes for a dollar when you can get out to the supermarket. Cheap and filling are the food values relevant to West Athens. It's not that people there have never heard of eating well and watching their diet. They aren't strangers to the idea that what they eat profoundly affects their health.

These messages come into even this most isolated of communities, and they do so in a variety of ways. There are hot lunch programs at the schools,

ads laden with Miracle Whip. There is seldom a balanced or planned meal. Nutrition is a middle class luxury. The pressing concern is filling the hungry stomach.

Typical foodstuffs are white bread and stacks of fried baloney, cheese curls and Spaghettios, elbow macaroni with a little hamburger, onion, and tomato sauce, and potato chips, especially BBQ flavor. Poor Man's Stew is a favorite: water, onion, pork drippings if you have them, potatoes and dumplings. Meats are processed hot dogs, baloney or ham slices. During hunting season there's deer meat. Scrambling a dozen eggs means supper for under \$1. Another standby is macaroni and cheese, the

There also are enough people in town who suffer from diabetes, obesity, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol, with contact by these people with the medical profession (irregular and incomplete as it is) for the general message to get out. There are a few people who are under strict dietetic restriction and post their do's and don't's under refrigerator magnets and usually follow them. But for the majority, an enormous gulf exists between what they eat and what they should eat. In spite of the efforts of those on the outside to improve their diet, most of the locals of West Athens

plagued by diabetes, high blood pressure and dangerously high cholesterol, responded, "I'd eat the food that I know I'm supposed to eat."

Most nutritionists will tell you that eating right does not mean spending more money, just spending wisely: avoiding prepared foods, trimming fat off meats, reading labels, comparison shopping, buying sale items. It is not that the people of West Athens are incapable of doing this, rather it is

dents with no teeth or terribly decayed ones couldn't bite into most fruits or vegetables if they tried. The food that is easily available to them in the small stores in the nearby town of Athens tends to be expensive, and stress the worst elements of their diet—processed meats, white bread, prepared foods, snacks. A more balanced diet would generally require traveling nearly 20 miles to Skowhegan, but this requires a car that's legal and gas, commodities sometimes in short supply in West Athens.

Television and the long arm of culture reach into this small town accustomed to a slow pace, preaching fast



photo by Steven Rubin

"Because diet does not occur in a vacuum, nutritional needs cannot be met without also addressing other basic problems—like economic opportunity, affordable health care, and quality education."

and nutritional counseling (or nutritional pleading) in clinics and hospitals. Outreach workers leave behind printouts of nutritious recipes and shopping strategies. Many have regular contact with social service programs like WIC and food stamps, that include nutritional information with their benefits. Indirectly, through government food giveaways, soup kitchens, and food banks in surrounding towns, the message of eating healthfully is communicated.

French fries commonly make a meal. It's rare when there is something else on the table besides the main course. Maybe some white bread and cheap margarine, or homemade biscuits or a jar of pickles. Vegetables are an endangered species, making an appearance in potato or pasta sal-

continue to eat poorly.

What food they put on their plates may appear a trivial concern when compared to their material want. But the poor food is also a reinforcing cause of their poverty. A person living on an inadequate diet for extended periods is like a car running on watered-down gasoline: both operate far below optimal performance levels.

Adults are afflicted with nutrition related illnesses that affect work performance or from working at all. For children, it leads to health problems that promote school absenteeism and impairs their ability to learn and achieve—all part of the viciously repeating cycle that keeps them poor.

Data from the departments of Health and Human Services and Agriculture reveal that as household income decreases, the adequacy of household members' diets also decreases. While the government intends food stamps as a supplement to income, here they can be the only income. It is rare when finances stretch to the end of the month. Were it not for the strained generosity of neighboring relatives, many might go hungry. It is hard to put more on the table than one starchy dish. Many healthier foods are more expensive: lean meats and light foods cost more, whole wheat bread is high-priced compared to white. When asked what she would do if she had money, Rena York, a lifelong resident of West Athens now

that the grinding conditions of their poverty are of much greater concern. The daily struggle of existence with all its demands allows little time, quiet, or peace of mind to sort through RDA percentages, saturated this and polyunsaturated that, and which food group you need.

Living in a community that lacks any business in a depressed county in an economically stagnant state is bleak. What is the point of changing one's diet in this atmosphere? Outsiders may tell you that eating better is beneficial in the long term, but what good is such an abstract, intangible concept like the future when faced

food, quickness and convenience. Shacks without indoor plumbing now have microwave ovens; vegetable gardens, once a common sight, are a rarity today.

What people eat also is affected by their world view, one that biases them against the outsiders telling them how to run their lives. This goes for expert nutritionists as well as government bureaucrats and authorities.

If any significant change is going to occur, the nutrition of the poor will have to become a national priority—a position it briefly occupied in the 1960s. Moreover, nutrition programs will have to inform people in places

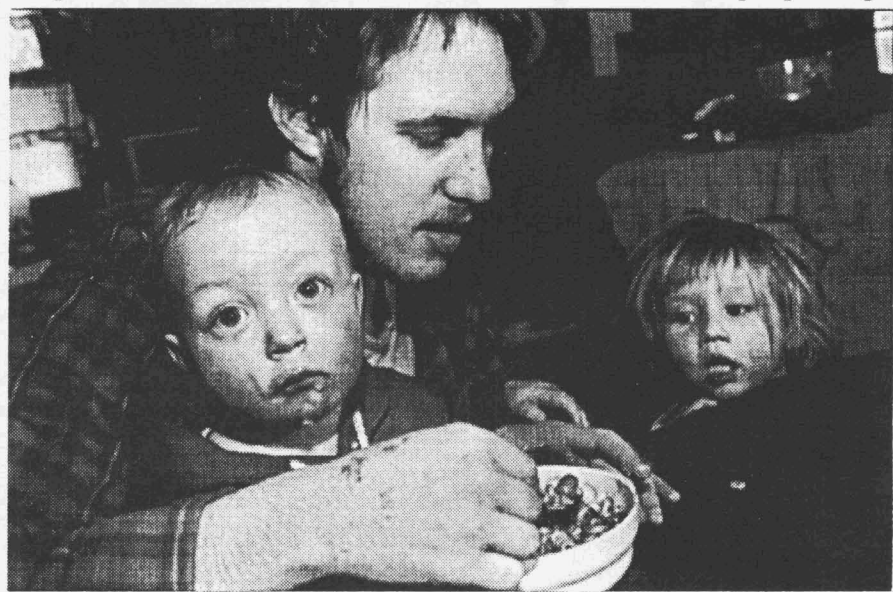


photo by Steven Rubin

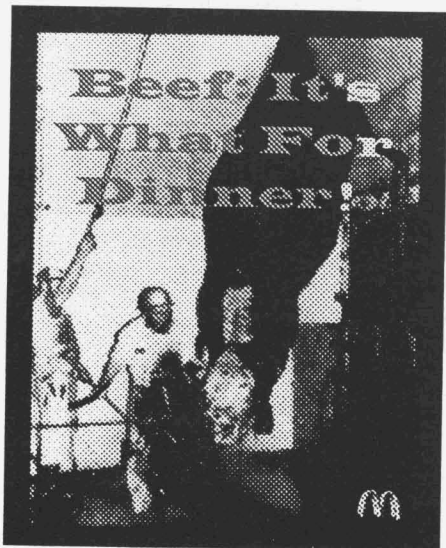
with the concrete reality of poverty's daily struggle?

Other pressures are just too great and too real. The end result is that, instead of careful, cost-conscious habits, poverty lends itself to the opposite behavior. Your kids are screaming on top of all this and so you just give them what they want. What will make them stop crying? Usually sweets or junk food. And what tastes better for yourself than greasy, salty, sugary things? Give me food that's easy, tastes good and brings immediate pleasure to a world where pleasures are few.

There are other money-related reasons for the poor food. Many in West Athens lack proper dental care. Resi-

like West Athens (as well as their urban counterparts) in terms they can understand, accept and use in their daily lives. Because diet does not occur in a vacuum, nutritional needs cannot be met without also addressing other basic problems—like economic opportunity, affordable health care, and quality education. Perhaps then the benefits of eating a healthy diet will at last become available to those most in need.

Steven Rubin, a free-lance photographer for JB Pictures, is examining rural Maine during his Alicia Patterson year. He is the first Josephine Albright Patterson fellow of the foundation. Reprinted from VOL. 16, NO. 4—APF REPORTER ♦



Toward a Feminist Understanding of the Reform Debate Welfare and Women's Lives

Mimi Abramovitz

Frances Fox Piven wrote in these pages last summer about the faulty assumptions and cruel logic of the Clinton administration's welfare reform proposals. No one could have guessed then just how far and how fast the public debate on welfare would swing to the right. As I write today (in mid-April), the Republicans' "Personal Responsibility Act," which

ric of this assault is highly racialized. Although 40 percent of the welfare caseload nationwide is white, the reformers do not hesitate to pander to white voters' worst instincts.

Nixon had his "southern strategy," Reagan had his welfare queen, Bush had Willie Horton, and today's politicians have welfare reform.

The first target of welfare reform is women's work behavior. Time limits and workfare plans presume that women do not want to work and need

for a link between the availability of welfare and a woman's child-bearing decisions.

The Republicans have made controlling women's reproductive choices the main goal of welfare reform. The stated purpose of their bill is to put an end to "illegitimacy." They say mother-only families — encouraged by welfare — have produced drug dealers, drive-by shooters, and the deficit. To end "illegitimacy," they plan a range of horrific child exclusion provisions, some denying aid to children and young unwed mothers forever. The Republican paternity procedures hold back AFDC until the state establishes paternity, which can take months, leaving even more women out in the cold. If the pregnancies persist despite these penalties, the Republicans tell mothers to turn to relatives; apply for private charity, or place their children in "orphanages."

Although only 8 percent of all AFDC households are headed by teens, the welfare reformers pander to public worries about "babies having babies." If preventing teen pregnancy were the real goal of welfare reform, we would hear more about sex education, family planning, abortion services, and awareness of the complexities of teen pregnancy.

The third target of welfare reform is the parenting behavior of poor women and men. The welfare reform debate displays a deep distrust of parenting by poor women. Supporters of "orphanages" publicly suggest that any caretaking is better than that provided by welfare mothers, even though many have hired poor women in their own homes.

In the name of promoting parental responsibility, welfare reform forces single mothers to work, shrinks the AFDC check, and otherwise undercuts the conditions for effective parenting. Forcing women to work makes it harder for mothers to supervise their children. This makes little sense, especially in neighborhoods plagued by poor schools, lack of health care, substandard housing and in some cases drugs, crime, and violence. Stricter child support enforcement clamps down on the parenting behavior of so-called "deadbeat dads." While men should be expected to support their children, welfare reform ignores that most welfare fathers are poor and unemployed, that some are already involved with their children, and that an aggressive pursuit of child support could subject women to male violence. All these efforts to enforce responsible parenting defy the re-

search that shows that the deprivations of poverty, not the receipt of a welfare check, impair children's development on all fronts. Although the combined value of AFDC and food stamps falls below the poverty line in all fifty states, the welfare reformers are silent on raising the grant and ending poverty as we know it.

The current attack harms poor women and their children first and foremost for being poor. But welfare reform also fits into a broader strategy designed to take back the gains made by all women during the past thirty years. The proposed changes attack the rights of all women to decent pay, to control their own sexuality, to establish families free of abusive relationships, and to survive outside of the rigid family forms endorsed by the religious right. They do this by undercutting women's economic independence, weakening their caretaking supports, and threatening their reproductive rights.

Cutting AFDC benefits undercuts all women's economic independence by depriving women of a small but critical alternative to male and market income. Without this back-up many women facing hard times will have more trouble resisting an exploitative job, escaping an abusive relationship, or simply deciding to raise children alone. By forcing women to work, welfare reform twists the gains of the women's movement against poor women. Feminism has called for more choices, greater opportunities, and well-paying work for women — not coercion, workfare, and poverty-level jobs.

Welfare reform threatens the rights of all women by shifting the costs of caretaking back to the home. The attack on welfare fuels a larger attack on the nation's health, education, childcare, income support, and social service programs which among other things have underwritten the cost of family maintenance and eased the caretaking burdens of middle class as well as poor women.

Welfare reform also threatens the reproductive rights of every woman. Efforts to penalize non-marital births are not far removed from the anti-abortion movement's challenge to women's reproductive choices. The foes of abortion have not yet won their battle in full. But if the government wins the right to control the bodies of poor women on welfare, it will be much easier to control the bodies of all women.

Welfare is an issue for women because politicians have built support for their attack on women's rights by blaming all women for the nation's woes. Women, welfare, and now affirmative action are being scapegoated to ease the moral panic generated by new family structures and greater

(Continued next page)

"The proposed changes attack the rights of all women to decent pay, to control their own sexuality, to establish families free of abusive relationships, and to survive outside of the rigid family forms endorsed by the religious right."

is even more punitive than Clinton's "Work and Personal Responsibility Act," has passed the House and awaits consideration in the Senate. Even if Clinton vetoes this first bill, it's almost certain that some kind of regressive welfare "reform" will become law before the 1996 elections. Welfare reform is bad for women, because they are the direct target of a drive to modify women's behavior; bad for children, who will see less of their mothers; bad for labor, who will face more competition for fewer jobs; bad for the poor, because it makes them poorer; and bad for the middle class, because their programs are next.

So we on the left have our work cut out for us. Just as the right patiently laid the groundwork over twenty years for its assault on the public sector, we need to do the slow work of building cohesive movements for social justice. A crucial part of this work will be raising public consciousness of welfare as a feminist issue — not just in the superficial sense that most welfare recipients are women, but also with the understanding that the availability of welfare affects all women's ability to resist sexist workplaces and family structures.

Welfare reform has turned into a mean-spirited campaign to modify women's behavior and dismantle the welfare state. When Aid to Families With Dependent Children (AFDC) was created in 1935, Congress's intention was to cushion poverty and to enable mothers to stay home with their kids. AFDC has never performed either of these functions well, and feminists and the left have criticized it for years.

But now things have gone from bad to worse. Instead of fixing AFDC to compensate for the falling standard of living, the new welfare reform deflects attention from the sagging economy by maligning the marital, childbearing, and parenting behavior of poor women. To build support for their plans, the welfare cutters evoke false stereotypes of recipients as culturally adrift welfare queens who prefer welfare to work, live high on the hog, cheat the government, and have kids for money. The rheto-

to be coerced into the labor market. But in fact, 70 percent of all AFDC recipients do leave the rolls within two years for work or marriage. A significant number of these women return within five years because of unstable jobs, failed relationships, or the lack of child care and health benefits. The remaining 30 percent are people who cannot compete effectively in today's labor market because of lack of education and skills, illness, disability, or emotional problems. They need supportive services, not punitive reforms.

The push for mandatory work requirements also ignores years of research showing that welfare-to-work programs have only modest results. This is not terribly surprising. First, there are not enough jobs for all those willing and able to work — and the Federal Reserve works hard to keep things that way. Second, the low-paying, part-time jobs available to poor women lack benefits and union protection. Given these conditions, the administration's promise "to make work pay for those who try hard and play by the rules" rings hollow for welfare mothers. It also devalues their work at home. Finally, cutting welfare means the loss of many public sector jobs, which for years have provided large numbers of white women and women of color a way out of poverty.

The second target of welfare reform, women's childbearing behavior, challenges women's reproductive rights. Both parties have expanded the child exclusion provision, which denies aid to children born on AFDC, and stiffened paternity procedures. These changes imply that women on welfare have large families, when in fact the average family on welfare is a mother and two children, the same as the rest of us. Forty-three percent of AFDC families have one child and 30 percent have two. Since you have to have at least one child to qualify for AFDC, this means that most women have just one additional child while on the rolls. It also suggests that women on welfare do have children for money. But 76 researchers recently announced that there is no evidence

Volunteers Are Needed

Tamara Wells, of Olympia's Eastside Women's Health Clinic told us that volunteers are needed every Thursday to counter anti-choice picketers and act as escorts to help patients through an upsetting experience: getting past an insulting crowd ("Don't Kill your Baby!") and into the clinic. The clinic has had windows shot out and bomb threats as well as blockages. Ms. Wells also stressed that we must defend our clinics - terrorism across the country has shown that we really can't depend upon the police. Eastside Clinic is going to conduct an escort training classes.

For more information, call 943-5127.

(Women's, continued)

economic independence among women. Welfare reform enforces traditional work and family forms by disciplining those defined as "not playing by the rules." The reformers openly hope that their stiff penalties will send a message to women about what happens to those who do not marry, who raise kids on their own, and otherwise step out of role. Since any woman can be tarred and feathered in this way, we must ask: Who made the rules? Who benefits from the rules? And can single mothers even play by a set of rules that defines their family structure as out of bounds?

While the Democrats' "Work and Personal Responsibility Act" bids for conservative votes by making welfare leaner and meaner, the Republican "Personal Responsibility Act" ups the ante by ending the welfare state altogether. It cuts welfare grants, converts major income support programs into state-administered block grants, and wipes out the federal guarantee of funds for all those who apply for aid. Without the federal back-up, fiscally strapped states will not be able to serve all those in need when the population grows or the economy sinks. You'd never guess from all the fuss that the \$24 billion spent on AFDC benefits in 1994 represented only 1 percent of the federal budget — 4 percent when Medicaid and food stamps are included.

Despite all this, I can end on an optimistic note. Poor and middle class women are not taking the blame, the punishment, or the coercion lying down. Since 1987, poor women have been fighting the war on the poor through such groups as the National Welfare Rights Union. This time around, they have been joined by large numbers of welfare advocates who are also working to limit punitive policies and to secure "real" welfare reform. Reversing past practice, these activists are spanning the traditional schisms between welfare recipients, feminist activists, and human service workers. The infrastructure built up during the past ten years of fighting right-wing social policies was mobilized on Valentine's Day, when organizations in 38 states and 77 cities from Maine to Hawaii participated in a national day of action to stop the war on the poor. This growing network is now well-positioned to be mobilized again, and again, and again.

These grassroots actions are critical. The historical record shows that the powers that be rarely act and social change rarely occurs for the better unless pressured from below. Unless today's politicians know that we mean business, they will not budge.

Mimi Abramovitz, a DSA member, is Professor of Social Policy at the Hunter College of Social Work and the author of *Regulating the Lives of Women: Social Welfare Policy from Colonial Times to the Present* (Boston: South End Press, 1994, fifth printing).

This article is adapted from a talk given at a speak-out, "Women for Women: Against the Contract: The Crisis and the Cuts," sponsored by the Women's Studies Certificate Program and the Center for the Study of Women and Society, and held at the Graduate School and University Center, City University Graduate Center, New York City, March 8, 1995.

Gorton Doesn't Know The Eco-System

Lynn C. Bornholdt

This is an open letter to Senator Gorton, my response to receiving a copy of Making People Equal Partners Under ESA, a reprint of his opinion editorial that appeared in the Seattle P.I.

Senator Gorton;

I read your "Making People Equal Partners Under ESA". It reads like out-of-town timber interests writing for backwards, uneducated people who can read but generally don't.

You state that your "goal is to make sure that local people and communities have a seat at the negotiation table when decisions are made about their futures." But you say nothing about local people participating in the business strategies that affect their ecosystems and futures. So much habitat has been lost by maximizing short-term corporate profits that the mere existence of other species has been seriously threatened or destroyed. For many, there are literally no longer any places to run, crawl, or fly to. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) was developed to prevent total annihilation of life forms; it is not an economic blueprint determining what people do for their living, or where.

The briefest reading of history would inform you that human communities develop and disappear through time in response to changing resource availability and other factors. Are you aware of the percentage of old-growth forests that have been cut by our people? I believe it is somewhere around 90%. Without awareness of where we stand, perspectives become skewed.

You state, "It began when the northern spotted owl was listed under the Endangered Species Act in 1989". Is this really the first time you were aware of impending economic difficulties in the timber-based communities of our region? Or is 1989 the extent of your hindsight?

You further note that the proud loggers "do not want a hand out." That is reassuring, if it means you do not propose further corporate profiteering at the expense of public forests. I am pleased that you support the type of timbermen who "don't want a government program." Does this mean you advocate disbanding the below-cost taxpayer-subsidized timber program carried out by the United States Forest Service?

You write that the ESA is blind to the human suffering its restrictions cause, and illustrate your point with the *Time* magazine spotted owl cover, asking, "would *Time* put a picture of the unemployed timber worker and his community on the cover of its magazine, under the heading 'Can they be saved?'" Is a particular type of job more important than life? Do you understand what a species represents in terms of eons of evolution? Does creation hold no intrinsic value for you?

Your question implies that every job in America carries a lifetime guarantee. Will independent Americans such as salmon fishermen receive the same job protections?

You state that "the very people who have been devastated in order to protect the spotted owl have a tremendous interest in protecting the environment. In fact, their livelihoods depend on a good stewardship of the environment." Well, yes, they did.

Unfortunately for all involved (except the corporations free to close shop and move on), good stewardship wasn't practiced. It is common knowledge that timber harvest levels have been unsustainable for over a decade. Where did the wood go? Who made the decisions regarding timber management, harvesting practices, use of profits: who decided to overcut? Was it "these people [who] were not even consulted as the federal government set the policies that directly affected and devastated their lives?"

I recommend you view the film, "Mad River: Hard Times in Humboldt County" (1982, Fine Line Productions, distributed by California Newsreel, 630 Natoma Street, San Francisco, CA 94103). It offers an outstanding opportunity to watch a logger's change of attitude as he becomes aware of the forces that led to the shutting down of his mill. Another mill in his area had operated sustainably for 100 years, and so remained open and supportive of the community. The logger moves from anger at environmentalists "lock-

extinct without ever getting listed; the ESA's weakness lies in its lateness, not the strength or expense of its death-bed medicine. People need to be involved: MUCH SOONER. In your three pages, there is no mention of crises prevention: Why?

You clearly state that you agree with the principle, "Base ESA Decisions on Sound and Objective Science", then you propose that "Conservation Objectives" for endangered species be developed by a team dominated by economists, land use specialists and government representatives. By whose alchemy do you intend to turn these administrators into conservation biologists cognizant of ecology, autecology, botany, habitat requirements, effective populations, genetics, minimum viable populations (and how these differ from management baselines) and so on? Do you likewise propose that a team of biologists, ecologists, zoologists, and botanists lead the development of land use planning, economic strategies, and regulatory procedures?

"You note that proud loggers 'do not want a hand out.' That's reassuring, if it means you do not propose further corporate profiteering at the expense of public forests."

ing up" the remaining patches of old growth, to anger at the "liquidate the forest and move on" corporate mill owners, and ultimately, attempts to organize the millworkers to buy the mill themselves, retrofit it for value-added products and continue operations. The film illustrates the trends in logging in the Pacific Northwest prior to the spotted owl becoming an issue around which debate polarized.

My sense of frustration at your shortsighted, artificially polarized propaganda is rooted in the truth you begin to hint at; people and communities must learn how to be functioning elements of their ecosystems if they are to remain within them over many generations. If ecology has taught us anything, it is that life exists as a web of relationships. Respect for the life and lands of which they are a part mark America's long-lived human communities. Neither spotted owls nor environmentalists caused the logging crises, as aerial (or even NASA) views make perfectly clear.

Far too many Americans choose to harden and lash out rather than open their minds and hearts to learn and care about others. When the rights of others are established by law, resentful backlash occurs, be the newly recognized a different race, sex, or species. I agree with you that everyone must have access to the dialogue of inclusions and changes. I don't agree that an "interim management period" is sufficient during this process. What is the use of talk and talk and talk if during that time, a species is extirpated? Life must be protected; knowledgeable, concerned local people can best decide how to accomplish conservation goals.

We are currently causing extinctions more rapidly than any disaster in the entire history of earth. The ESA is a last-ditch attempt to preserve life, a crises call. Some species have gone

Millions of years of evolution have fit each species to its niche or niches, while human population pressures and industrial capitalism are quite recent experiments. Biological requirements for survival of a wild population or species are many magnitudes less flexible than economic systems and local economies. Yet community design, restrictions, and economies, along with individual ethics and actions, have everything to do with how conservation objectives are implemented, and whether or not they are successful.

Your proposal steps backwards to a system in which those few people in positions of wealth or authority use the earth's living systems in whatever way they choose (with the Secretary protecting all listed species everywhere from direct killing or injury). This is your definition of stewardship? White male gentry have historically used women, Native Americans, slaves, children and other species to their pleasure and profit. I thought we were evolving. I do not care to be a part of the kind of people you espouse.

You state that, "If the people affected by the [Secretary's] decision don't like it, they have recourse. Their recourse comes in the voting booth." What is the recourse for species shoved over the edge during four years of one man's rule? You lay out the risk of your proposal: the Secretary might "mandate full recovery, for every single species, every time." Creation's continued existence is the worst risk you can imagine?

Many choices remain. Not all lead to crises. We are a very adaptable species, graced with the capability to learn from our own and each others' blunders. This is real progress, on a path more productive than scapegoating and continued destruction. I invest my hope in our capacity for compassion, wisdom and balance. ♦

Fiber Glass: A Carcinogen that's Everywhere

Peter Montague

In 1938, the Owens Corning Fiberglas Company was formed, and three years later, in 1941, evidence of pulmonary [lung] disease was reported by Walter J. Siebert, who investigated the health of workers in cooperation with Owens Corning. That same year another investigator reported finding "no hazard to the lungs" of workers exposed to glass fibers in the air. Scientific disagreement of this sort has characterized the study of fiber glass ever since; meanwhile fiber glass production has increased steadily.

That same year (1941), the U.S. Patent Office issued patents for 353 glass wool products. Glass wool, fiber

bestos fibers. Stanton continued his research and showed that when glass fibers are manufactured as small as asbestos fibers, glass causes cancer in laboratory animals just as asbestos does. Asbestos is a potent human carcinogen, which will have killed an estimated 300,000 American workers by the end of this century. The finding that fiber glass causes diseases similar to asbestos was chilling news in the early 1970s, and an additional 25 years of research has not made the problem seem less serious. Workers in fiber glass manufacturing plants are exposed to concentrations of fibers far lower than the concentrations to which asbestos workers were exposed, yet several industry-sponsored epidemiological studies of fiber glass workers in the U.S., Canada, and Europe have

delay the publication of the NTP's *Seventh Annual Report on Carcinogens* for more than two years, but on June 24, 1994, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), Donna E. Shalala, signed the REPORT and sent it to Congress, thus making it official policy of the U.S. government that fiber glass is "reasonably anticipated to be a carcinogen." In the U.S., fiber glass must now be labeled a carcinogen.

Announcing this decision, government officials tried to play down its significance. Bill Grigg, a spokesperson for the U.S. Public Health Service (a subdivision of Health and Human Services) told the *Washington Post*, "There are no human data I'm aware of that would indicate there's any problem that would involve any consumer or worker." To make such a statement, Mr. Grigg had to ignore at least six epidemiological studies showing statistically-significant increases in lung cancer among production workers in fiber glass factories. Indeed, according to researchers in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA, another division of Health and Human Services) fiber for fiber, fiber glass is a more potent carcinogen than asbestos.

Fiber glass -- a material that nature does not make -- is now measurable everywhere in the air. The air in cities, rural areas, and remote mountain tops [4] now contains measurable concentrations of fiber glass. If the dose-response curve is a straight line (that is to say, if half as much fiber glass causes half as much cancer) and if there is no threshold dose (no dose below which the cancer hazard disappears), then exposing the Earth's 5.7 billion human inhabitants to low concentrations of fiber glass will inevitably take its toll by causing excess cancers in some portion of the population.

According to OSHA researchers, an 8-hour exposure to 0.043 glass fibers per cubic centimeter of air is sufficient to cause lung cancer in one-in-every-thousand exposed workers during a 45-year working lifetime. In rural

areas, the concentration of fiber glass in outdoor air is reported to be 0.00004 fibers per cubic centimeter, about 1,000 times below the amount thought to endanger one-in-every-thousand fiber glass workers. But people in rural areas breathe the air 24 hours a day, not 8 hours. Furthermore, a human lifetime is 70 years, not the 45 years assumed for a "work lifetime." Moreover, one-in-a-thousand is not adequate protection for the general public; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency uses one-in-100,000 or one-in-a-million as a standard for public exposures. (And, finally, in urban air, there's 10 to 40 times as much fiber glass as in rural air.) Therefore, the amount of fiber glass in the outdoor air in the U.S. and Europe (and presumably elsewhere) already seems higher than prudent public health policies would permit. Assuming a straight-line dose-response curve and no threshold, we believe there is ample reason to be concerned about the human health hazards posed by fiber glass in the general environment. (And this says nothing about the hazards to wildlife.)

It has been 25 years since researchers at the National Cancer Institute concluded that fiber glass is a potent carcinogen in experimental animals. During that time, additional research has confirmed those findings again and again. During the same period, the amount of fiber glass manufactured has increased rapidly year after year. Ninety percent of American homes now contain fiber glass insulation. All of this fiber glass will eventually be released into the environment unless special (and very expensive) precautions are taken to prevent its release. We believe the likelihood of Americans taking such precautions is nil. Billions of pounds of fiber glass now in buildings will eventually be dumped into landfills, from which it will leak out slowly as time passes. Elevated concentrations of fiber glass are already measurable in the air above landfills today.

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"The finding that fiber glass causes diseases similar to asbestos was chilling news in the early 70s, an additional 25 years of research has not made the problem seem less serious."

glass, fiberglas, fibrous glass, and glass fibers are all names for the same thing: thin, needle-shaped rods of glass, which nature does not make but humans do.

Fiber glass is now used for thermal insulation of industrial buildings and homes; as acoustic insulation; as fire-proofing; as a reinforcing material in plastics, cement, and textiles; in automotive components; in gaskets and seals; in filters for air and fluids; and for many other miscellaneous uses. More than 30,000 commercial products now contain fiber glass.

As asbestos has been phased out because of health concerns, fiber glass production in the U.S. has been rising. In 1975, U.S. production of fiber glass was 247.88 million kilograms (545.3 million pounds) -- by 1984 it had risen to 632.88 million kilograms (1392.3 million pounds). If that rate of growth (10.4% per year) held steady, then production of fiber glass in the U.S. in 1995 would be 4365 million pounds.

Fiber glass is now causing serious health concerns among U.S. officials and health researchers. As we reported in REHW #74, in a series of papers published from 1969 to 1977, Dr. Mearl F. Stanton of the National Cancer Institute found that glass fibers less than 3 micrometers in diameter and greater than 20 micrometers in length are "potent carcinogens" in rats; and, he said in 1974, "it is unlikely that different mechanisms are operative in man." A micrometer is a millionth of a meter (and a meter is about three feet). Since that time, studies have continued to appear, showing that fibers of this size not only cause cancer in laboratory animals, but also cause changes in the activity and chemical composition of cells, leading to changes in the genetic structure and in the cellular immune system. Although these cell changes may be more common (and possibly more important) than cancer, it is the cancer-causing potential of glass fibers that has attracted most attention.

In 1970, Dr. Stanton announced that "it is certain that in the pleura of the rat, fibrous glass of small diameter is a potent carcinogen." The pleura is the outer casing of the lungs; cancer of the pleura in humans is called mesothelioma and it is caused by as-

reported statistically significant increases in lung cancer.

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), of the World Health Organization, listed fiber glass as a "probable [human] carcinogen" in 1987. In 1990, the members of the U.S. National Toxicology Program (NTP) -- representatives of 10 federal health agencies -- concluded unanimously that fiber glass "may reasonably be anticipated to be a carcinogen" in humans. NTP members were preparing to list fiber glass that way in the *Seventh Annual (1992) Report On Carcinogens*, the NTP' listing of cancer-causing substances, which is mandated by Public Law 95-622. But industry intervened politically.

Four major manufacturers of fiber glass insulation campaigned for three years to prevent their product from being labeled a carcinogen by NTP (see REHW #367). They managed to

A New Proposal would send more toxic waste to local landfills and import more radioactive toxic waste to Hanford

As taxpayers, you would bear the costs and liabilities of the Washington State Department of Ecology's proposed Dangerous Waste Regulations. The new regulations would allow 21 million pounds of wastes currently defined as hazardous to be sent to local landfills. It does not make sense to allow business' hazardous waste to be disposed in municipal landfills at the expense of local taxpayers. It also works against programs which have tried to educate home owners to reduce and properly dispose of household hazardous wastes.

There are tremendous impacts from this rollback of our dangerous waste rules: 21 million pounds of toxic wastes a year would be added to local landfills, and mixtures of toxic, cancer causing and radioactive wastes will be imported to Washington State for unregulated burial at Hanford. In addition, the proposed rules would 1) drop regulation of cancer causing chemicals or carcinogens. Carcinogens would not be managed at all.

They could be stored or reused anywhere or even burned at local incinerators. 2) Reduce by ten times the standard for calling a toxic waste toxic! 3) Drop full regulation of many persistent dangerous wastes, certain PCBs, toxic radioactive waste and corrosives. 4) Decrease the management and disposal requirements for many toxic wastes.

Why is the state signing secret agreements?

At a private meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, the Washington Department of Ecology met with the State's largest polluter (Hanford's owner, the United States Department of Energy) and signed an agreement to rollback our Dangerous Waste Standards. Why? The rollback in our Dangerous Waste regulations will allow the USDOE to import large quantities of radioactive "mixed" toxic and carcinogenic waste to Hanford -- where it would be buried without any regulatory oversight.

Attempts to simplify the rules while protecting the public were rejected.

Representatives of environmental and Hanford Cleanup Watchdog groups worked hard to come up with changes to the Regulations that would simplify the law without decreasing protection to public health and the environment. After a year they realized their suggestions were having little effect. The rules were becoming complicated and would actually work against pollution prevention. Additionally, their repeated calls for an EIS to disclose impacts and alternatives were refused.

Environmentalists and others had supported expanded use of a streamlined petition process, set out in WAC 173-303-910 for determining if waste could be safely exempted. Our proposal puts the burden of proof of safety on the generators who want to send toxic waste to local landfills.

You can send written comments to Patricia Herieux, Department of Ecology, Hazardous Waste Program, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 or FAX 360-407-6715.

Chemically Related Illness

Karen McDonell

The Washington State Department of Health ("DOH") and the Department of Labor & Industries ("DLI") will soon publish a Report to the Legislature on Chemically Related Illness as mandated by ESHB 2696. A separate report, written by the Chemically Related Illness Advisory Committee, will be published for DOH and DLI. Both reports will be available through DOH, Office of Toxic Substances, and DLI.

Chemically related illness became a major topic of concern in Washington State when dozens of injured workers from various workplaces ("Clusters") started identifying themselves and their struggles to State Agencies, the Governor, and the Legislature. Clusters were reported at Evergreen State College, University of Washington, U.S. West, Delta Airlines, Washington State University, Blakely Elementary School, Pierce County Annex, Kelso Public Library, Whatcom County Courthouse, etc.

The Legislature answered these cries for help in early 1994 by appropriating \$1.5 million for research on Chemically Related Illness. The bill also directed the Department of Labor & Industries to establish a process for adjudicating chemical claims in a more fair and consistent manner. A special unit was established at DLI to manage chemical claims. The bill also directed DOH and the Board of Health to look into making some occupational diseases reportable. In addition, special medical centers for the evaluation of chemical injuries are being established because of the bill's passage.

The newsletter, *New Perspectives: Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Support & Information*, from Washington's network of chemically injured people identifies several clusters of illness in Washington's workplaces. Sick building syndrome, tight building syndrome and extensive remodeling during occupancy have led to Environmental Illness/Multiple Chemical Sensitivity in many instances. While we cannot accurately estimate how many people in Washington are developing Environmental Illness (an acute sensitivity to or complete intolerance of chemicals), an epidemic is apparent.

Further information and the two reports are available from the Department Of Health and the Department of Labor and Industries. More information on the community of people with Environmental Illness can be obtained by calling Karen McDonell (206) 857-6202, or Alan Welch (206) 432-0987 or write PO Box 532, Carlsborg, WA 98324.

Will Cuba Go Green?

Stephen Zunes

Cuba has been faced with serious economic problems during the past five years. Much of its travails are due to the cessation of the generous trade terms and foreign aid the country once received from the Soviet Bloc, as well as the tightening in 1992 of the US economic embargo, which was originally imposed in 1961.

Unable to obtain fuel, chemical fertilizers, pesticides, motor vehicles, and other items on which they depended, the Cubans faced a potential catastrophe. The response, in the words of Peter Rosset of the Institute for Food and Development Policy, is the largest conversion from conventional agriculture to organic or semi-organic farming that the world has ever known."

Despite an 80 percent drop in the availability of chemical pesticides and a 50 percent drop in petroleum for agriculture from 1989 levels, Cuban farmers interviewed during my visit in October report that they actually increased the quantity and quality of crop yields at lower costs and with fewer health and environmental side effects. Fungi, nematodes, wasps and ants have all been harvested for pest control. Much of this biological pest control has been developed in cottage industries led by scientists in this poor but highly-educated society.

Arnaldo Coro, a leading Cuban scientist, recalled that Cuban entomologists "threw a big party" when they learned the government was ending the import of most pesticides and herbicides. "Finally," he exclaimed, "our discoveries were being implemented!"

I visited a vermicompost production center in Pinar del Rio that produced more than 100,000 tons of vermicompost in the past year. Dozens of concrete troughs are used for rearing worms mixed with manure in the shade of large mango trees. Within three months the mixture is ready for application. Unlike chemical fertilizers, it leaves no unhealthy residue in the plants, and the nitrogen content is higher.

In addition, Cuba is moving away from the mono-culture model - based on exports of sugar and tobacco - to growing more food crops, particularly soy beans, to support the country's burgeoning soy industry. There are now more than 30,000 community gardens in Havana alone, and more than one million across the country, as food production has become a priority.

This has not been enough to make up for the end of food imports from the Eastern Bloc, so some serious food shortages remain. However, despite some periodic vitamin deficiencies, many Cubans are now healthier because of their increased consumption of organic vegetables and decreased consumption of red meat. Farmworkers especially report a dramatic improvement in health, due to their reduced exposure to pesticides and herbicides.

Green Energy

The shortage of fuel has led to a switch to renewable energy sources. Construction of the country's nuclear power plant has been suspended. Windmills, solar panels, and bio-mass generators are springing up all over;

70 percent of the country's sugar mills are now powered by waste from the cane. Solar ovens and other appropriate technologies are now commonplace in rural areas.

A bicycle revolution has swept Cuba. Millions of Cubans now travel under their own power. The World Bank reports that Cuba's "process of de-motorization of its transport system through the massive introduction of non-motorized vehicles [is] unprecedented in the history of transportation." Hundreds of miles of traffic lanes, paths, and entire roads are now reserved for bicycles.

Havana is the most bicycle-friendly city I have pedaled through, with well-marked bicycle lanes and the rela-

"Cuba was one of only two countries in the world to receive an 'A-plus' rating at the Rio Earth Summit on its sustainable development practices."

tively small numbers of motorists quite respectful. The number of cars in the city has been reduced by two-thirds and the number of bicycles is 40 times what it was just four years ago. One million bicycles have been imported from China for Havana alone, while five bicycle factories are being completed across the country.

Reforestation

While many countries have been destroying their rain forests, Cuba has made a conscious effort to expand its wooded areas through large-scale reforestation programs that include the planting of a rich variety of native species. Forested areas have grown by more than one-third since the 1959 revolution. So successful is this effort of reclaiming the natural vegetation that a mountainous region in the eastern part of Pinar del Rio Province - which was an over-grazed wasteland just 30 years ago - has recently been declared by UNESCO as an international biospheric reserve.

One of the by-products of the reforestation efforts is that Cuba is now a leading bio-technology center for medicines derived from tropical plants. There has been a dramatic increase in the use of herbal medicines and a return to some proven folk remedies.

Cuban Minister of Tourism Osman Cienfuegos, a world-renowned environmental architect, has made the preservation of scenic and environmentally-sensitive areas a priority in the development of new resorts for the million European and Canadian tourists who visit each year.

There is surprisingly little debate about its strong environmental direction, in part because Cuba has no powerful corporate sector to oppose it. It also seems to be the only choice. According to Rene Capote of the Ecology Institute of the Academy of Sciences. "If we lose our natural resources, we have nothing. If we are not able to protect nature, we will not be able to have a sustainable economy. It's just common sense."

As a result of these innovations, Cuba was one of only two countries in the world to receive an "A-plus" rat-

ing at the Rio Earth Summit on its sustainable development practices.

Decentralization

As people grow less reliant on centralized sources for energy and agricultural inputs and more reliant on local sources, this once totalitarian system has partially democratized. Most state farms have become cooperatives run by the farmers themselves, and an increasing degree of political control now rests with democratically elected local administrations. Though the Cuban government is still authoritarian in many respects, the trend towards decentralization has brought new life to a country that had stagnated for years under a rigid, hierarchical state bureaucracy.

Most of Cuba's ecological innovations were made more out of necessity than by design. However, the Cubans

we talked to believe that many of these changes are here to stay, even if the availability of fossil fuels and chemical agents improved.

"We will never go back," one farmer told me. "I'm sorry it took us so long to figure this out." Indeed, as a number of Cuban scientists pointed out, sooner or later all countries will have to make the transition to a more environmentally sustainable economy.

"The revolution and the US embargo freed us from having to follow the US model of development," says Raoul Guiterrez, who works for a tour agency. "Unfortunately, we ended up following the Soviet model, which didn't work either. Now, we have been forced to do what we should have done from the beginning - find a Cuban model, sensitive to our country's cultural, economic, and environmental needs."

Stephen Zunes is an associate scholar at the Institute for Global Security Studies in Seattle. He and photographer Clemens Kalischer, of Image Photos in Stockbridge, MA, participated (separately) in eco-tours of Cuba sponsored by Global Exchange 415/255-7296.

For more information on Cuba's transformation, read Food First's book, The Greening of the Revolution: Cuba's experiment with organic agriculture by Peter Rosset and Medea Benjamin. Order by calling 1/800-274-7826. ♦

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WORKS IN PROGRESS HISTORICAL CALENDAR



AUGUST 1995



"Ninety-eight percent of the adults in this country are decent, hard-working, honest Americans. It's the other lousy two percent that get all the publicity. But then we elected them." Lily Tomlin

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
"Free Soil, Free Speech, Free Labor and Free Man" The Free Soil Party was organized in 1848 to oppose extension of slavery into the territories. They nominated to the presidency former president Martin Van Buren and had as their platform a declaration that congress, had "no more power to make a slave than to make a king." Their candidate received no electoral votes, but they did succeed in sending to congress 2 senators and 14 representatives.		1 1867- African-Americans voted for first time in Tennessee state elections 1834- Slavery abolished throughout British Empire 1955-Georgia board of Education orders Negro teachers to resign NAACP membership	2 1924- James Baldwin born 1934- On Hindenburg's death, Hitler proclaims himself Reichsfuehrer of Germany 1936- Jesse Owens sets new world record for 100-meter at Olympics in Berlin, Germany	3 1938- Italy bans schools, intermarriage to Jews 1981- US air traffic controllers begin nationwide strike, grounding 7,000 flights 1986- 6 die, 600 held in 2 days of anti-government strikes in Chile	4 1789- Declaration of the Rights of Man adopted in France 1944- Anne Frank and her family are discovered by Nazis in Amsterdam 1964- Bodies of 3 missing civil rights workers found in Mississippi	5 1861- Congress abolishes flogging 1922- Einstein flees Germany 1935- Haile Selassie likens Ethiopia-Italy conflict to David and Goliath 1966- Martin Luther King, Jr. stoned during Chicago march
6 1935- Italy: Mussolini calls up three divisions, 300,000 men 1945- Atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima. 78,150 killed, 37,425 injured, and 13,083 missing 1981- Reagan fires 12,000 federal air traffic ontrrollers	7 1934- Court of Appeals rules against government attempt to confiscate/ban all copies of James Joyce's book, <i>Ulysses</i> . Court states if <i>Ulysses</i> could be banned so could <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> , <i>Hamlet</i> , and the <i>Odyssey</i>	8 1925- Thousands of Ku Klux Klan members march down Pennsylvania Avenue 1939- German Reich orders registration of all between five and 70 to prepare for war-time assignments 1974- Nixon announces resignation	9 1848- Free-Soil Party (abolitionists) organized 1936- Jesse Owens becomes first person to win four Olympic Gold Metals in Berlin 1942- Mohandas Gandhi is arrested by the British and interned until 1944	10 ☉ 1835- White mob and hundred yoke of oxen pull black school into swamp, Canaan, New Hampshire 1921- Franklin D. Roosevelt is stricken with polio at his summer home in Campbello Island, Canada	11 1935- Nazi Storm Troopers stage mass demonstrations against the Jews of Germany 1965- Watts Riot 1954- Formal peace announcement in Indochina end the 7 year war between the Vietminh and France	12 1658- 1st police force established in North America, New Amsterdam Colony, used for guarding against attacks by Natives or European powers 1959- Six African-American students enroll in Little Rock High Schools
13 1926- Fidel Castro born 1831- Nat Turner slave insurrection 1818- Lucy Stone born 1923- "Yes, We Have No Bananas" is nation's number one hit. It will sell 500,000 copies of sheet music in the first 12 weeks	14 1912- US Marines begin 21 year military presence in Nicaragua to protect American interests 1900-2,000 US Marines assist in the capture of Peking, China, ending Boxer Rebellion. 1040- MacBeth slays Duncan	15 1979- UN Ambassador Andrew Young resigns after his unauthorized meeting w/ PLO 1057- Malcolm slays MacBeth 1975- Joanne Little acquitted of killing white jailer while defending against rape	16 1936- Fascist rebels in Spain took no prisoners upon the capture of Badajoz on the Portugese border. They executed 1,200 Loyalists by firing squad. "In each street there was a barricade, and each was heaped with corpses"	17 1892- Mae West is born 1943- Robert DeNiro born 1948- Alger Hiss comes face to face with his accuser, Whittaker Chambers, at a House Un-American Activities Committee hearing	18 1823- B. Galloway announces candidacy for Maryland legislature, refuses support of "Jews, Deists, Mohammedans, or Unitarians," and wins 1935- Italy rejects economic concessions, demands control of all Ethiopia	19 1890- Daughters of the American Revolution begins, restricted to those with an ancestor who aided in American independence 1934- Germany votes Hitler as the official successor to Hindenburg
20 1914- Germany occupies Brussels, the capital of Belgium 1941- Russians blow up Dnieper Dam as German troops sweep across Ukraine 1964- Johnson signs antipoverty bill, "the days of the dole in our country is numbered"	21 1831- The Nat Turner Rebellion, general insurrection against slavery in Virginia; more than fifty die 1971- George Jackson is killed in attempted prison break, autopsy report will reveal that he was shot in the back	22 1941- Nazi troops reach the outskirts of Leningrad, USSR 1963- S Vietnamese ambassador resigns to protest Saigon's treatment of buddhists 1986- Kerr-McGee pays \$1.3 million in Karen Silkwood suit	23 1906- Cuban president requests US intervention to quell a revolt arising from election disputes 1927- Sacco and Vanzetti executed. Despite the fact that both men had alibis, the jury convicted and sentenced them to die	24 1954- Communist Party outlawed in US 410- Rome falls 1572 - Beginning of St. Bartholomew Massacre that ended in October with 50,000 French Protestants killed at the instigation of Catherine de Medici	25 1475- Balboa sees the Pacific Ocean 1925- Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters organized 1916- The National Park Service is established to administer and protect the nation's national parks	26 ● Women's Equality Day 1935- Evacuation of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia begins as war threat grows 1968- Natl. Democratic Convention opens in Chicago 1920- 19th Amendment goes into effect
27 550 B.C.- Confucius born 1910- Mother Teresa born 1949- Eight people injured when a hostile anti-Communist mob breaks up a Paul Robeson concert outside of Peekskill, New York	28 1963- March on Washington 1955- Emmett Till (14) kidnapped and lynched in Money, Mississippi 1968- Chicago police attack demonstrators with clubs; Mayor Daley swears on national television	29 1921- Newspapers report Ku Klux Klan members tar and feather 43 Texans in last seven days 1957- Sen Strom Thurmond ends filibustering w/ record speech against 1957 Civil Rights Bill, 24 hours, 18 minutes	30 30 B.C.- Cleopatra commits suicide 1637- Ann Hutchinson banished from Massachusetts 1874- White Democrats killed more than sixty blacks and whites in the Coushatta Massacre in Louisiana	31 1933- NYgrand jury asks flogging for 3 , wants public whipping post restored 1959- NY police commissioner shifts 1,400 to fight increasing youth crime 1970- Philadelphia cops raid three Black Panthers centers	Emperor Augustus named the sixth month of the Roman calendar after himself. JULY SEPTEMBER S M T W T F S S M T W T F S 1 1 2 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 30 31 ☉ full moon ● new moon	

★ "America is both racist and anti-feminist" ★

Shirley Chisholm